

POUNDMAKER

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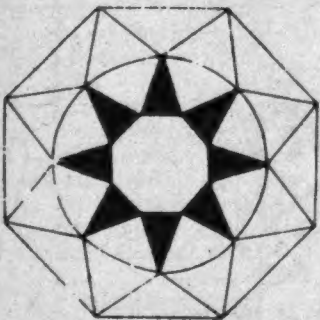
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Communists discuss Western problems

Amid a rising feeling of cautious optimism, the first Western Policy Conference of the Communist Party of Canada since 1967 was held at the Eastglen High School June 16 and 17.

Over sixty people from all four western provinces, and Party Secretary William Kashtan of Ontario, discussed problems of Western agriculture, industrialization, transportation, and development. The party hopes that the conference will result in heightened political activities and help force the western provincial governments and the federal government to take more radical approaches to solving Western problems.

At a press conference before the meeting, Kashtan described the oil price dispute between Premier Lougheed of Alberta and Premier Davis of Ontario as "a bit of a ballet dance between two men who aspire to the leadership of the Conservative Party. Lougheed represents the interests of the oil corporations and Davis represents the industrial capital of Ontario."

Kashtan said that the Communist policy is to have a single price for all Canadians, with a higher price for export purposes. He feels that Lougheed is falsifying the situation when he calls for a three price system, one for Alberta, one for the rest of Canada (mainly the Ontario industrial centres) and one for export. Kashtan says that the beneficiaries of this policy would be the oil monopolies, not the people of Alberta.

He also attacked the present freight rate structure as being a major western problem, "set up very calculatingly to aid eastern monopoly". As a remedy, the Communists call for a publicly-owned, fully integrated transportation system, one which would aid in the industrialization of the West, he said.

No gas shortage

The conference itself began with a paper presented by the Alberta Communist leader, Bill Tuomi, on the petroleum industry and Northern development.

Tuomi says that the current "gas shortage" in the United States is a creature created by the oil monopolies. "There is a fuel crisis, but not of supply. It is created by the big five oil corporations because their control of the world oil supply is beginning to slip."

The main factor in the creation of this situation, he says, was the formation of OPEC, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. OPEC includes most of the major Arab oil exporting nations, and Venezuela. Tuomi pointed out that because of the anti-imperialist nature of the organization, it has become cheaper for American companies to develop oil supplies within the United States than to buy it from the Middle East at recently re-negotiated prices.

"The plan is to destroy the independent refineries, drive prices up, and repeal the environmental laws relating to oil", he said.

Tuomi attacks suggestions for continental pooling of energy resources, and calls suggestions that we should use our resources for trade concessions from the U. S. A. "continentalism with a new ring to it".

The energy policies of the Lougheed government also drew fire from the Alberta leader. He gave as an example of what is happening, a new oil discovery which lasts for 25 years. The corporation which makes the discovery is excused from royalties or taxes for the first five years, and pays nine-tenths of a cent per barrel left in the find every year. So the last year's barrels will only provide 18 cents revenue for the province over the entire 25 years. Lougheed has refused to try to change the oil royalty rate, now frozen at 16 2/3 per cent.

Higher royalties

Tuomi says that the oil monopolies can well afford to pay higher royalties and taxes. He cited the \$64 million profit of Gulf Oil last year, Shell's \$79 million profit, and Imperial Oil's \$150 million as proof that higher prices

could be gotten from the corporations.

He calls for industrialization of Canada's north, saying that it is inevitable and should be done in the best possible way. He says the Inuit and Indian people of the North have suffered "endless indignities and discrimination" and feels that preferential treatment must be given to them and their wishes regarding northern development, as that is the only way they can be guaranteed an equal voice in the process.



The next paper was by the Saskatchewan provincial leader, Bill Beeching, on agriculture.

"To listen to Eugene Whelan and Otto Lang you'd swear the farmer never had it so good, despite the growing number of ghost towns on the prairies," Beeching said, pointing out that there are less than half as many farmers now as in 1941.

He says "the formation of the National Farmers Union was a sign that farmers don't intend to put up with what the monopoly capitalists have done to them". 46 per cent of Canada's farmers make less than \$3,500 per year, and at least 68 per cent make less than \$5,000, Beeching says, due to the growing monopoly exploitation of the farmer, which the NFU is a reaction to.

The gap between Prairie wages and those in Ontario is a great concern to Beeching. He says that it results in large numbers of skilled industrial workers leaving the west, which in turn results in a lack of farm machinery production in the west, and much more expensive machinery due to the high freight rates.

Beeching calls for expanded Canadian trade with the socialist and developing countries. He says Canada should supply third-world nations with farm equipment and stock to help them feed their own people and to industrialize.

Ultra-leftist tendencies in the NFU were criticized by Beeching. He says there is "a subtle form of Maoism" in the NFU which hampers co-operation with the Soviet Union and calls unrealistically for "a return to the good old days", a return to self-sufficiency and communes. Beeching says it simply is not enough for a farmer to think only of feeding himself and his family at a time when more and more food is needed in the world.

Manitoba provincial Communist leader Bill Ross added some figures on the state of farming in his province.

According to the 1971 income tax figures, Ross says, 71 per cent of Manitoba's farm families had net incomes of less than \$3,000. 40 per cent made less than \$1,000. These figures include old age pensions and family allowances. 1,000 families are leaving their farms yearly. The amount of gross sales from produce which goes to overhead and operating expenses has risen from 50 per cent in 1945 to 80 per cent in 1971.

Ross presented the third position paper, on manufacturing and industrialization in the West. He says western industrializing is not keeping pace with that in the east, having dropped

from 17 1/2 per cent of all manufacturing capability in Canada in 1946 to 16 per cent in 1968. In Manitoba, he says, the percentage of workers in manufacturing industries has dropped from 34 per cent in 1961 to 32 per cent in 1970. The only increases in employment in the province are coming in the low-paying service sector and the unorganized sections of the labour force.

He also is concerned about the slow population growth of the west. "5,000 more people are leaving than entering every year. We are exporting our potential labour force, particularly our young people".

Mining profits in Manitoba were given by Ross as an example of monopoly exploitation of the west. He says 92 per cent of the 1972 mineral production of \$300 million was controlled by three companies, INCO (International Nickel), Sherrit-Gordon, and Hudson's Bay Mining and Smelting. These companies had a total profit of over \$80 million. Their royalties came to only \$4 million, about 1 1/3 cent for every dollar's worth of ore extracted. Premier Schreyer has since raised that rate to about 1.8 cent out of every dollar.

Because of various tax concessions from the federal government, says Ross, mining companies paid taxes on only 19 per cent of their book profits, compared to 79 per cent in manufacturing industries, and 84 per cent in service industries.

Ross called for the processing of western resources in the West. This would include such things as processing Manitoba copper for use in the hydro projects there rather than buying it from Ontario or the U. S. A., a petrochemical industry based on the Athabasca tar sands, steel production, and fertilizer production based on Saskatchewan potash and other raw materials. He pointed out the case of a Manitoba farmer going to South Dakota to get fertilizer cheaper than at home, although the fertilizers were exactly the

same.

The final report was by the provincial leader from B. C., Nigel Morgan, on a new national transportation policy.

Morgan lashed out at the freight rate structure, saying "no longer can the inequalities and restrictions imposed by the monopolies and railroads on the West be tolerated".

As examples of how the system works, he said it costs \$1.94 to ship a hundredweight of concrete pipe from Montreal to Vancouver, but \$3.21 from Montreal to Calgary. To send a hundredweight of structural steel from Hamilton to Vancouver costs 82 cents less than from Hamilton to Calgary. The result is that it is often cheaper to send products all the way to Vancouver and back to the prairies than to send them directly to the prairies.

Railway rip-off

Because of this, the average cost of living in the prairies is \$800 more per year than in the east. A colour TV costs up to \$100 more here, and a new truck anywhere up to \$2,000 more.

Morgan charged that the CPR's claims that it is losing money in many areas of service are only devices to increase its profits. He says the cancellations of service by railroads must be given immediate attention. The Communist Party position on the CPR is that it should be nationalized.

Besides the CPR, Morgan said it is necessary to have a publicly owned, fully integrated system of transportation including "rail, road, air, water, and pipeline".

Kashtan and the provincial leaders felt that the conference was a successful one, with the level of the discussions being very good. They were particularly pleased with the large number of young Communists, most from Edmonton and Calgary, who made up over a quarter of the delegates.

by Kimball Cariou

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More on Western film

Dear Editor,

Response to John Ray's article on the unfair situation of filmmakers in Alberta, "Westerners out of the Picture", (POUNDMAKER, June 14-20, 1973).

Just as the filmmakers of Alberta are penalized because of their geographic location, public ignorance of their existence, and the domination of feature film distributors in Canada by branches of the "American Seven" so are Alberta's film study groups (eg: the NATIONAL FILM THEATRE/Edmonton, the Calgary and Edmonton film Societies, ethnic film groups). What's worse, the Amusements Act of this province, as administered by the Alberta Board of Censors, functions as a "conservative" in this deplorable state of affairs.

Few people realize that every single film to be screened publicly in this province at however low a charge (including silver collections at the door) must be submitted to the Alberta Board of Censors prior to exhibition.

Would a film study group limit its program to prints available from distributors who operate a licensed exchange in Alberta, then the exchange will be charged for approval and classification of the prints by the Board. However, only the "American 7" have licensed exchanges in Alberta (Calgary, to be more precise), and these provincial outlets of the "Am. 7" have a rather limited choice of films available which in addition are of a rather second or third rate commercial appeal.

When a film study group (or an individual) brings a film into this province for public exhibition from a distributor who has no licensed exchange in Alberta, then the group or individual is considered not only the exhibitor but also the distributor of that film in Alberta and, therefore, has to pay the charges for viewing and classification (if the film has no record at the Censor's office) or, if the film was classified in previous years, 2nd, 3rd, 4th... print charges for approval by the Board have to be paid. Few of the "Am. 7" distribute foreign (including Canadian) films, particularly not of the kind that would be interesting

to a film study group. If they distribute the occasional film by Bergman, Truffaut, or Godard, it is highly unlikely that their Calgary office has a print of it--and so again the film study group will be exhibitor and distributor of the film when it brings in a print from an "Am. 7" branch outside Alberta.

Obviously, the cost for transportation also rises when ordering a film from a distributor in another province (eg: Toronto or Montreal in the majority of cases). Because of the geographical distance between these centres and Edmonton, most commercial distributors in the east require shipment by air, which means that a 16mm print of a film from an eastern distributor will cost the Edmonton group an additional \$25 to the rental charge.

Most of the films by independent anglophone Canadian filmmakers are handled by the Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Centre in Toronto, while most of the francophone Canadian film makers have distributors with single agencies in Montreal. Consequently, when a film study group in Alberta wants to present a program of Canadian films, it is up against the geographic distance (from which result financial and communication problems), and also against the Alberta Board of Censors, where the same problems arise. Problems in communication with the Alberta Board of Censors do not arise from geographical distance (obviously) rather from the fact that they too consider film a business rather than an artform.

Films of Canadian (not to mention Alberta) filmmakers are rarely handled by the "Am. 7"--thus having a slim chance indeed to get exposure in this province.

It is for these and many more reasons that the NATIONAL FILM THEATRE/Edmonton has been requesting the institution of a Film Study Centre for Alberta, the most important function of which would be the collection and screening of significant international films, and especially of films made by Albertans.

Ursula O. Ulrich

Save our hills

Dear Sir,

The statement at the beginning of your article on bicycling in your issue of June 7-14 really angered me. The suggestion that "someone should remove the hills" is a selfish and thoughtless one, and confirms my long stand-

ing suspicion that you really have no consideration for anyone but yourselves. I live on a hill, and have you ever thought of what would happen to people like ME if your crazy plan was carried out?

Name withheld

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LETTERS PAGE
Poundmaker
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by Doctor Duck

Mom's home remedies (and old wive's tales)

Hello once again. Or, should I say, "Quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack."

In this week's column we continue with:

Alphabetical Ailments and Antidotes (Part 2)

BURNS

No one like to get burned. But these things happen.

As you probably know, there are three kinds of burns, appropriately called 1st Degree (when the skin reddens), 2nd Degree (when the skin is blistered) and 3rd Degree (when the skin tissues are destroyed and look like a charcoal briquette).

If you get burned, and you think it's 3rd degree and blackened, or if it is a 2nd degree burn spread over a large area, get to the hospital. Anything put on the burn will have to be removed so use cold water to ease pain wrap it in linen or gauze, and get to a hospital or aid station.

If you treat the burn at home, NEVER place cotton directly on it and NEVER use iodine. Cotton will stick and iodine will damage skin tissue.

For relief of burns:

--plunge the burned area into cold water, especially if it is still burning. This also eases pain (again, especially if it's still burning). For 2nd degree burns constant application of soft towels soaked in ice water works well and leaves no scars. If it's a bad burn, treat for shock immediately. Put the person's feet on a level above his heart and wrap a blanket around him/her. When the burn is cooled off, apply one of the following:

--honey. Seriously. Over a large area, cover clean linen clothes with honey and pily them. On a smaller area, apply it directly and then cover it with gauze if necessary. On a very small area, apply the honey and leave it alone, it will be absorbed by the skin in a short time.

--Aloe Vera Jel, which can be purchased at health food stores. It is useful for a variety of skin problems. Or you can keep a fresh Aloe Vera plant in your home (non-poisonous, of course), and just break open a leaf to get the fresh jel. WARNING: some people are allergic to Aloe Vera.

--fresh comfrey leaves directly or a comfrey poultice, which I'll tell you how to make in a later issue.

--wheat germ oil, or break open a vitamin E capsule.

--a really old tea bag. This one sounds weird, too, but it works. Old timers used to keep a few old tea bags, in water, in the cupboard all the time.

--Aclovite, a cod liver oil and honey ointment available in drug stores.

Mr. Goose (who, by the way, failed to come up with the goods on applying for Alberta Health Care Plan Insurance again this week due to an unforeseen accident involving two punks in a not car and a gross miscarriage of justice) suggests keeping your home no warmer than 68 degrees, avoiding air conditioners if possible. And they are, after all, one of our worst sources of power consumption in the home. Maybe even try sleeping with the heat off and the window open.

And that's about it for this week. And to the kind woman who sent me a letter questioning my qualifications, I can only say, uh, er, ... well, we'll see you again next week.

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Volunteer Staff This Issue: Malcolm Archibald, Tom Cairns, Lise Manchester, Trish Richards, Roger Davies, Rick Grant and two anonymous hip punks in a hot car.

Nice guys finish last

Competitive sports on the international level has become an area of sufficient prestige to warrant the spending of large sums of money by the federal government in order to insure that Canadian athletes do well. What is at stake in international competition is not merely athletic contest but also, and more important to the government, our way of life, the philosophical premises which underlie the functioning of our society. Indeed, excluding the third world nations, who have no time or energy left after their internal squabbles (remember Vietnam), large sports gathering such as the Olympics have become a surrogate for global war.

Armies of technicians and physiological and psychological researchers, and huge amounts of time and money follow the athletes in the opening ceremonies of the Olympics. The athletes represent the cream skimmed from the top and therefore are the showpieces for their respective nations. The huge amounts of resources poured into this spectacle are for one purpose only--to take home medals, for that is the indication of the effectiveness of governments' policies.



The internal problems facing sports administrators stem from maintaining the delicate balance between the super-athlete who represents the nation and the general public which must finance sports spectacles. More specifically, the problem is that the super-athlete is the ultimate yardstick of the effectiveness of the instituted programmes, and hence the government is anxious to advance that measure as quickly as possible.

The athlete is, however, dependent upon the general public in at least two ways. Primarily, the athlete is the child of the culture, as is everyone else, but he is a freak living somewhere under the rim of the bell curve. The level of fitness of the athlete is dependent upon the general level of fitness of the nation in the eventual sense that as one raises that second level one tends to raise the level of fitness of the athlete. Simply, one must alter the perception of normal levels of fitness to alter the perception of super-normal. The athlete is inevitably tied to this pyramid and relies upon the strength of its base.

Drama

Secondarily, the athlete is dependent upon the general public's attitude towards sport for it holds the purse strings. Should the general public fail to see the value of sport in relation to the money spent, then it will cut off funds.

Sport is a valuable medium of expression for the individual for it demands not only physical requirements such as strength, speed, and co-ordination, but also acute awareness of the body as a unit-functioning organism subject both to physical and psychological limitations and fluctuating emotional variables. In addition, sport serves a social function. McLuhan has described sport in these terms: "More obviously than most entertainment, competitive sport is a direct reflex of the various motives and inner drama of a society." Sport is, in essence, the socialization of fitness, in McLuhan's sense, for it represents a microcosm of society's inner aspects of competition, co-operation.

Society is goal-oriented as is sport. Sport, as an institution, must be examined in terms of its goals for, like soci-

ety, it may in its development lose contact with its primary function. In the case of sport, this is the integration and co-ordination of the body into the life of the individual. If this is not done the role of the body in general becomes dissociated from the day to day functioning of the individual in society.

It is in the province of education that values must be defined and then instilled. But in this area educators have failed not only in developing value systems that are humanely compatible with society, but also in making the body a significant part of one's life.

Competition

For the most part, sport, and more importantly physical fitness, have been treated with a degrading jockstrap attitude by educators in the country. At a time when children could be instilled with an awareness of the importance of fitness, of the importance of integrating all aspects of their lives to attain a greater understanding of themselves, educators have instead instilled the impression that the locker room is the place for morons. The result is a fat society which conceives of the body as a utensil with which to eat, to sit, and to fuck. Sport has become a passive spectatorial activity, physical fitness a synonym for the absence of disease.

Competition is conceived of as being a factor destructive to social organization; however, this is a misleading half-truth. Competition as it exists, or as it is defined in terms of professional sport or even aggressive inter-school activity has as its emphasis winning at any price, development of acquired skills is an incidental characteristic.

However, the real value of competition lies in the development of individual skills. As such, competition does not exist outside of the realm of the individual player or the team, but its ties to the cult of head-hunting promoters and fans and the ensuing social implica-

tions for the athlete have perverted its meaning. This phenomenon will exist as long as educators ignore the role of the body in education but, in the same breath, perpetuate the over-emphasized role of spectator sport. Sport must be an area of mass-participation as well as an area for the specialized super-athlete. The delicacy of the balance cannot be over-estimated.

With all fairness to most sports organizations in the country, there is a general awareness that measures must be taken to change the attitudes towards the education of youth in regard to sport and fitness. This has resulted, with the co-operation of the federal government, in the establishment of the Fitness and Amateur Sport Directorate (FASD), a body of administrators whose function is to co-ordinate the various programs across the country and to begin to initiate new ones in order to achieve the needed changes in attitude.

A second purpose for its establishment is to co-ordinate activities of the various amateur sports groups engaged in international competitions. With regard to this aspect, Sports Canada, part of FASD, co-ordinates administrative procedures and finances the various organizations.

Money

While on the surface Sports Canada seems in agreement with the philosophy of raising the level of international competition by raising the general levels of fitness in the country, they are, at present, taking certain short cuts to ensure a little more immediate success than their programmes could venture to offer.

The government, faced now with the financing of Montreal Summer Olympics in 1976 and possibly with the financing of the 1975 World Student Games in Kitchener, are taking a hard line on sports. The government's concern with sport heightened after the fiasco caused by the Canada-Soviet hockey series and

they are now demanding results from the proffered subsidies to athletic organizations. They are hoping, by this hard line, that pressure can be applied and results coerced.

However, the threat of financial withdrawal does not push athletes to faster times--it pushes promoters to shady deals at the expense of the athlete and the taxpayer. The promoter in this case is Sports Canada and the shady deal is the selling out of Canadian athletes in favour of better athletes from the States. Sports Canada is demanding that the selection committee for the World Student Games select from not only Canadian athletes attending Canadian schools, but also those attending American schools on scholarship. They are in addition, stretching the limits of 'Canadian' to include those athletes who because of parental nationality are technically Canadian, though they have lived in the U.S. all their lives. The general procedure for these athletes is, failing to make the American team, they then try out for the Canadian.

The threatened withdrawal of financial support, it seems, has pushed Sports Canada to the point where it must contradict itself. By extending the parameters of the concept of "Canadian athlete" Sports Canada is defeating its own purposes. It is presuming that Canadian athletes are not good enough to earn the required prestige for the country. While perhaps this is a valid assumption, it does no good to the programmes established in Canada to improve the quality of athletics. This rather undignified scramble to the winners podium is an indication that the government convictions are not what they should be. By its actions the federal government has consented to forget its representatives in order, primarily, to gain prestige, and then to gain a majority at the polls.

—jakob

(from the CHEVRON, U. of Waterloo)





Fighting for their futures

"Only 10% of the people in this whole jail are getting any kind of rehabilitation".

"On Tuesdays, Thursdays and weekends you have to be a stretcher case before you get to see a doctor."

"I haven't been to the swimming pool in over five months."

These are comments from a group of Fort Saskatchewan inmates attending Grant MacEwan Community College on day passes, under a program called the "A. G. (Attorney-General) Special Project".

The project was begun last fall by the Attorney-General's Department and Grant MacEwan college. It's an attempt to rehabilitate prisoners by giving them an education and job training.

Rehabilitation is one process which occurs only rarely in most jails, and the Fort is no exception. Conditions, especially medical, make a sentence there a fight for survival rather than a retraining experience.

The inmates in the program reveal numerous incidents illustrating the barbaric nature of the Canadian penitentiary

system.

One told of getting venereal disease twice because of the lack of proper sanitation. The second time he was given a formaldehyde spray gun to cure himself. The gun didn't work and as he attempted to fix it, it broke and sprayed formaldehyde in his face and hair. As he gagged and vomitted on his way to the washroom, a guard remarked laughingly that "at least he wouldn't have crabs in his hair."

Another prisoner has pyrrhoea so badly that he can not brush his teeth; if he does, his gums will bleed for hours. Now

small pieces of his teeth are breaking off when he cleans them with a cloth.

An old prisoner who died of a heart attack recently was dead for fifteen minutes before the doctor, who was in the jail at the time, came to the cell. He had been summoned as soon as the old man had begun his seizure.

At the Fort, a doctor is available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Prisoners must apply to see him before 6:30 a.m. If they become ill later in the day, they're out of luck.

Examinations take place with the doctor sitting on one side of a desk and the prisoner and a guard standing on the other side. The doctor asks the prisoner what's wrong with him (as if the prisoner knows). If the inmate is fortunate he will be given a prescription.

The prisoners were highly doubtful of the value of the prescriptions they get. They call the pills "smarties".

One man related how his case of piles had been treated. After finally getting a prescription, he discovered he'd been given the customary treatment for constipation. Eventually he borrowed the right medication from another prisoner.

No previous medical records of prisoners are brought into the jail. Medical treatments going on when a man is jailed are usually ended. No inmate can visit an outside "street" doctor.

The situation is particularly bad with the dentist, who is said to exploit his patients.

To maximize his earnings, he will often extract four teeth a month from someone who needs them all taken out.

Although he is paid under medicare, he sometimes demands money from the prisoners themselves for his work.

The man with pyrrhoea can't get his teeth fixed by the prison dentists and isn't allowed to go to an outside dentist. Even if he could, he wouldn't have the money.

The people in the program estimate that only 10% of the Fort's inmates are getting rehabilitation of any kind.

The auto body shop employs three men. The barber shop has two. Nine men are on the baseball team.

While there is supposed to be a cook training program, it is regarded as grue-



I can still smile sometimes. . . .

editorial

"If I leave here alive, I'll leave nothing behind. They'll never count me among the broken men, but I can't say that I'm normal either. I've been hungry too long. I've gotten angry too often. I've been lied to and insulted too many times. They've pushed me over the line from which there can be no retreat. I know that they will not be satisfied until they've pushed me out of this existence altogether. I've been the victim of so many racist attacks that I could never relax again. . . . I can still smile now, after ten years of blocking knife thrusts, and the pick handles of faceless sadistic pigs, of anticipating and reacting for ten years, seven of them in solitary. I can still smile sometimes, but by the time this thing is over I may not be a nice person. And I just lit my seventy-seventh cigarette of this twenty-one hour day. I'm going to lay down for two or three hours, perhaps I'll sleep. . . .

From Dachau, with love
George

From "Soledad Brother, The Prison Letters of George Jackson"

Not all prison systems are so bad as the one to be found in California which ultimately murdered George Jackson.

But instead of wasting time diagnosing the strengths and weaknesses of each, we should come to a fundamental understanding of the prison in North America.

First and foremost it is an institution for the protection of the status quo - capitalist society.

George Jackson was jailed for six years for a theft of seventy dollars - and there are cases like his in abundance.

In Alberta, the average inmate has received about 8, 25 years of education. This is well under what is fast becoming the necessary grade 12 level of education for a decent job. And only eight and one half per cent of Alberta's prisoners in provincial jails have a grade 12 or better education.

These figures reveal by implication who is in Alberta jails. They are people who could not afford to continue in school. They are poor people.

To defend yourself when accused of a crime in our society you need money. If you are in a position where you have to steal property to live well, chances are

you won't have that money.

But the man who owns that money is in a different position. Not only does he have no economic compulsion to steal, he can afford to hire a good lawyer when he does break the law. The entire system is based upon protection of his property and his freedom.

The penitentiary system is also a weapon used for the systematic oppression of the native peoples.

We live in a racist country. Although there are no large-scale race riots in Canada, the explanation for this is simple. The super-exploited Indian, Metis and Inuit people are either on reservations or in distant northern villages.

The brutal poverty which they are forced into is carefully painted over. When it comes to light anyway, racists explain it away as laziness and alcoholism brought on by themselves.

24% of the people in Alberta jails are Indians or Metis. This percentage is far higher than the percentage of the population that these people make up.

Why is that? Take a look at the men who make the laws that perpetuate this system. They are businessmen, oil corp-

oration lawyers, big property owners; not workers or natives. Whose interests are they going to protect - those of the working class or the owning class? That's not hard to answer.

The legal system of this country is a carefully structured mechanism to hold high the sacred cow of private enterprise. In our society, crime is usually interpreted to be an attack on that sacred cow in the form of stealing property.

Those who would have you believe that our legal system punishes those who hurt others are either liars or naive. The owners of the productive property are hurting the working people of Canada more every day.

They steal the working man's money by keeping a large part of the profits he produces, and then rob him again with their vicious inflationary tactics. They are the ones who are truly hurting the people of Canada.

And they aren't in jail because they make their own laws, appoint their own judges, and control the media that keeps their activities secret as much as possible.

by Kimball Carliou

somely hilarious by the prisoners. "How can you get a job on the street buttering toast and boiling eggs?" they ask.

Of course, prisoners can always make license plates. What a booming demand there is for that trade outside the prison!

In light of this, the 15 men and women the Grant MacEwan program are relatively fortunate.

Many are taking sociology and psychology courses. "Adolescent Development" is one of the more popular courses in this field.

Others are involved in arts and science courses, English literature and others. One man is taking an all-music program.

Most of the student inmates are taking photography courses. They take great pride in their work, some of which is shown with this article.

The prisoners say the program is helping them by giving them a new self-confidence, a feeling of self-worth. It is also valuable experience for the time when they will be released and forced to re-adjust their lifestyles.

The Grant MacEwan staff involved in the project say the prisoners are at least as good, possibly better than the other students in both attendance and marks.

Both staff and students speak of a "great relationship" between the groups, a "special affection". And it shows in the casual give and take between them, so unlike the usual teacher-student relationships.

While the students have few problems with the college staff, the Fort Saskatchewan administration has made life difficult for them.

The program is officially run by the Attorney-General's Department and Grant MacEwan college, so the Fort brass cannot shut the program down.

However, it does have some controls over what happens. The first is in the choosing of the eligible prisoners. Last year several dozen inmates applied for the project. Only 22 were selected by the administration, although Grant MacEwan officials say they would have taken many more.

Those chosen had to satisfy numerous regulations. The most restricting one appears to have been refusing to let known drug users on the project.

Once these 22 were chosen, pressure was put on them in numerous ways. Seven have been dropped from the project by the Fort officials - some for drinking in town, some for missing the bus ride back, two for merely being outside the college. One man was paroled and is still going through the course.

The men left in the project are all in the same dormitory in the jail. There are 13 of them in the dormitory, which is about 30 feet by 12 feet.

It contains their beds, two tables, three sinks and two toilets. The result

is a crowded room, to say the least. "When you're fourth in line in the morning you can't see too much of your teeth" is a typical comment.

Other dormitories have about seven inmates in each, with more tables. The student inmates, who could use more than two tables, cannot get them.

Another example of special pressure is with clothing. The project prisoners' clothing often comes back from the laundry with articles missing.

Recently the staff and the prisoners planned to have a picnic in the river valley with some children from a day care centre. However, as the prisoners got on the bus to Edmonton the day of the picnic, they were told not to leave the college that day. The picnic was held on the roof of the college.

The administration does its best to degrade the program to other prisoners. Their excuse for this is that the Grant MacEwan staff "demoralizes the prisoners."

The treatment of female prisoners is an especially sore point.

The only organization which can visit the women's section is Alcoholics Anonymous, while the men can also see the Native Brotherhood.

Women are not allowed to eat their meals together as the men do. They are

all given trays in their cells.

Usually the only recreation they get is playing cards from 9:30 to 11 p.m.

The women going to Grant MacEwan are faced with extra problems.

They have to select the clothes they will wear to school the day before. If a woman picks clothes for sunny weather and wakes up to find it raining, that's too bad.

The women are subjected to far more book checks than the men. When they return to the Fort, their texts are checked for dope and other illegal objects, while the men receive only spot checks.

The Grant MacEwan women also aren't allowed to use the gym at the Fort. They are told it's because "there's a gym at the college". One woman said she hadn't been allowed to go swimming in over five months.

Perhaps most serious is the administration's tampering with mail. The women were told they couldn't write letters to other federal prisoners. They protested this and had to write six letters to the provincial ombudsman before action was taken.

The insanity of the penitentiary system is shown very clearly by what is happening with this program.

It appears to be one of the very few effective rehabilitation projects existing these days. Yet the Fort Saskatchewan

administration uses every means it thinks it can get away with to destroy the program.

Why? The answer is obvious. Our jails are not intended to help solve the problem of criminality. They are a protective device only - they protect the rich from the rest of us. That is all.

by Kimball Carliou



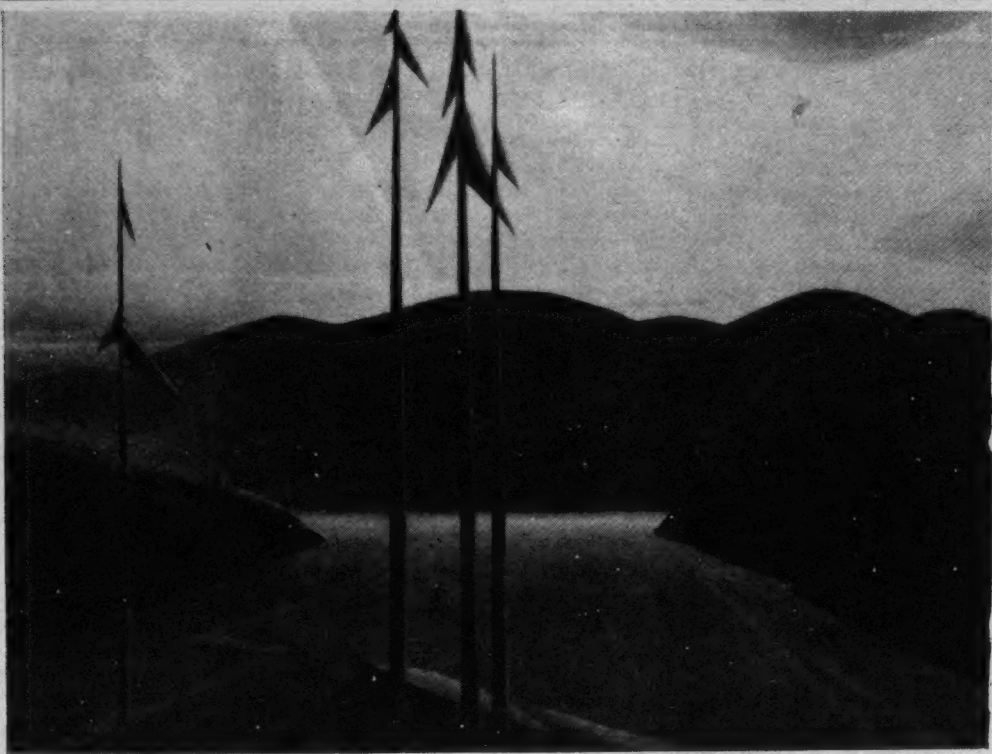
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"Who are the first Canadians?"

A large amount of emotional controversy surrounds the answer to this question. Most feel that either the Indians or the white men are.

Bill Lafferty, founder of the Committee of Independent Métis (CIM), argues that the Métis are really Canada's first people.

"The Métis", he says, are the descendants of the early settlers and the Indians. They are the result of the biological needs of the womenless men who explored this country and who, in so doing, created not only a new country but a new breed of people as well.

"Today they are being robbed of their rightful place not only as Canadians, but also as the true Canadians."

In Canada Mr. Lafferty "estimates that there are over 1 million cosmetically identifiable Métis and over 3 1/2 million nonidentifiable ones, compared to about only 278,000 treaty Indians, 10 per cent of whom are not ethnic Indians."

"Most of the Métis are to be found in Canada's major cities. The highways have lead the Métis to urban areas seeking employment and... excitement." But movement to the cities was not merely an action of choice; it was one of necessity. Most Métis did not have any legal rights under the Indian Acts, and, like the ordinary Canadian tax payer, were forced to fend for themselves.

Discrimination

"However, in the cities the Métis were met with discrimination which perpetuated a circular ghetto mentality and condition among them.

In the government sponsored organizations which were set up to meet their needs, "the Métis found disillusionment and betrayal". Consequently in 1966 he founded the CIM, "to speak the real issues... Métis life..."

According to Mr. Lafferty, the federally funded organizations which have existed up to now "have created an elite group who no one dares oppose -- not even the staff, unless they find themselves fired for no reason. These organizations are maintained just to create employment by collecting statistics for the government.

"Hundreds of people in B. C. who are Métis and Indians, and thousands in the N. W. T., are promised each year that they will receive help. Each year there are notices of the monies

they receive, which looks like a lot of money when figures are published but this does not mean anything nor will it do any good for these poor people.

These people have no philosophy of life and have no information that will create any awareness among them of the activities and involvement of those who they elect to represent them."

Those they elect do not involve them in the awareness of the changing environment in which they find themselves or tell them how to relate to the dominant white society.

"And there are no recommendations coming from grass-roots people, not

because they don't initiate such activities, but because of financial and other resources which control the existing organizations over them.

"The status of these other organizations is reflected in their membership. The Alberta's Métis Association has only about 2,700 paid one-dollar memberships.

"Today, the Métis Association is preparing for an election rally in the Slave Lake area. The campaign trails are being opened up with the executives of the association, no doubt in their concern, buying gallons of booze and free beer in taverns hoping to be elected again. These elections do not mean much because the maximum attendance at these assemblies represents only about 0.53 per cent (800 out of a possible 150,000) of the Métis population at the provincial level.

"We do not charge a membership fee and we have over 7,000 active applicants in our organization.

3 Kings

"Our organization in the near future is starting up leadership courses based on our findings and knowledge of Indian and Métis communities that has been gathered by our volunteers over the last six years. Hopefully from this structure will emerge leaders instead of just people who post president signs on their doors. We know that there are usually three types of presidents:

those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who don't know what happens.

"The white man with his super economic position is handing out all kinds of money to organizations but he is making a lot of noise and is struggling, only with difficulty, back into the position of being on top, hoping that he

can still control the native peoples. And the natives are taking the money--taking leadership of native organizations while ignoring the demands of all native peoples. The answer to this is the creation of new movements. They are talking about creating their own wealth from their own resources--human resources. And in this demand there is beginning to be a noticeable sympathy by poor white people with the native peoples wherever they are found.

"Alberta's native organizations alone received over \$7.8 millions in assistance last year. Accepting these monies, however, subordinates our real interests. Instead of credit going to the Métis people, it goes to these funding agencies who have already suppressed them and who are just creating extensions of their own departments with their money. Moreover, these funds benefit only the small group of people who are employed in these organizations.

"They talk about creating employment but all they want are statistics to go back with to the government. Their statistics talk about how many people they have helped but they have not really helped; all that they really show is how many people have been through their books.

"It is a simple fact that most Métis and Indian people cannot understand and don't know why white people administer policies and any other type of venture the way they do, yet the Indian and Métis organizations imitate this

The Other People —



system while claiming to do their own thing.

"In example, their requests for credit references, character references, job references; when Indians or Métis apply for help. Most native Métis and Indian people do not have and could never attain any of these references simply because it is not in their social values and further because they are a prejudiced group by the dominant white society in employment and social circles.

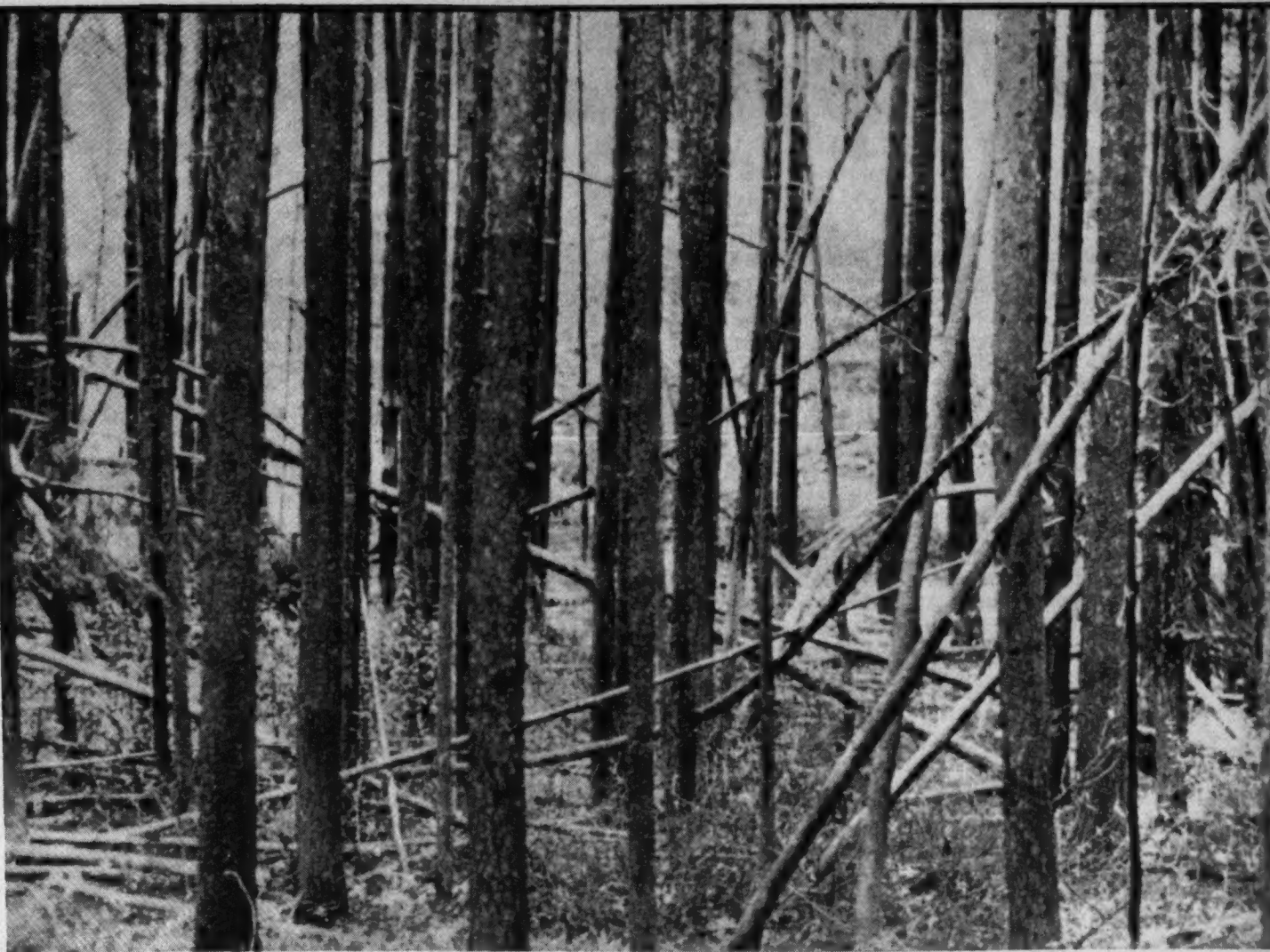
Philosophy

"Most of these people could never get any kind of references because they are not steadily employed--the only employment they can get is menial jobs, leading them to frustration, resentment, and prejudice that inevitably leads them to quit the job whether it is permanent or not.

"So it happens that native people do not represent any economic philosophy. They have no basic philosophy to work from. They must introduce a philosophy not based on the ways of the cultural past--that died with the buffalo.

"Since our inception in 1966, the Committee of Independent Métis has not taken a penny from any government. We are developing our organization from Métis resources only.

"Foremost in our tasks is the development of an ethnic identity. There is continual inference that the Métis are



Metis

Indians because we were raised with Indians. Although the Métis is the "Indian of today", this is true only in a special sense. The Métis is the carrier of the Indian culture--indeed, few Indians speak or even know their own languages. Most Métis do, however. The Indians don't know who they are. But the Métis community is distinctly Indian. They are very value oriented, nomadic, and socialistic.

"However, still a great difference exists between the Métis and the Indians. Not recognizing this difference is like saying that all Japanese are Chinese. The Métis are a genetically unique people. Their different genes manifest in a temperament and disposition that is different from either that of either the white man or the Indian.

Identity

"As a community, they are a type of people who are highly competitive in their jealousies, their resentments, and mistrusts. They are a people who are not philosophers nor theoreticians. They mostly react to situations that they may think threatens their way of life. They cannot really use money because they have not any methods based on their ethnic and cultural past to implement what would be useful to their community. When they do get money they imitate the white man's structure even where the white system is what they aim to oppose.

"As for ethnic identity, the Métis must recognize that they are the original people. They cannot go back to the past as much as they want to; they do not only have the past, but they do not have the present either; they only have the future left. As long as they continue to identify with the past, not with the situation they are in, they will not recognize their ethnic identity; they will be bred out by assimilation.

"There is nothing wrong with assimilation if the Canadian people would break away from their European ties. Why should I honour the Queen or even be concerned with my French background? I am an original Canadian. I can sympathize with European-Canadian people who sympathize with the European system. But if they didn't want to leave that system why didn't

they stay over there?

"True, it's an international world, but internationalism only applies in economics. And in this respect Canadians can't be too international. If we tell the British corporations to get the hell out, it would mean the end of the Canadian economic system.

"Fine, if we treated each other as brother and sister, living, working together. Then I would be happy to be assimilated.

"The Métis knows that he is unique. For example, when an Indian moves into a white community he either will assimilate or go back to the reservation. Most Métis, although they usually have no reservation to go back to will not assimilate. Most Métis look up to white people whether they are rich or poor. They realize that they cannot do anything without engaging help of white people, whether they

are inferior to him or not.

"However, even on his reserve most Indians are not much better off than the Métis. In the control of reservation lands, the Indians are capitalists in the extreme. Many of the reservations are owned within the status of the Indian Act by a few Indians who are mostly half-breeds, while most of the inhabitants live on little plots of land where there is not even room for a garden.

Disillusionment

Usually it is the white social reject who integrates into the Métis family. He brings his booze into the Métis home--and in front of the Métis children calls them "you goddamn Indian". This has a profound imprinting effect on the Métis children. Nowhere are they free from discrimination.

"Ironically the Indian regards the Métis as something other than an Indian--even on reservations the treaty Métis will identify with citizen Métis... because of dictation of all treaty rights as belonging to Indians, the Métis of the reserve regards himself as an Indian and in so doing will readily accept any dictation from the white community.

"The real Métis identify with neither the white man nor the Indian--they never really have.

"The government does not help matters much. By enforcing technical distinctions, it perpetuates that kind of thing. In spite of the fact that it legislates differences it has not done anything in the history of the Métis in Canada to educate its citizenship to understand who the Métis are and who are the Indians.

"Most Indian people claim aboriginal rights but just call them an aborigine and they say that they are not. I regard most Métis peoples are disillusioned and floundering in search of truthful identity and that identity is Métis.

Dead

"Most Métis are in the low income group--below \$3,000 per year. The average Métis is subject to a high drop out rate from school due to discrimination pressures. His home environment is not highly disciplined and hence conducive to academic achievement. Many Métis neglect to tell their children the truth as to who they really are, but rather let the whites do it.

"But then the white man has always been regarded as the suppressor of most native people not only in Canada but throughout the world. Unwittingly, they are destroying themselves; they are the dying people of this world, not the coloured people."



by Victor Benesch

Hobbema Youth Club

Wetaskiwin--Recent search into the possibility of using youth club activities at Hobbema Indian Reserve to reverse the effects of the seemingly lost and aimless wanderings of the native Indian youth in surrounding communities, has some interesting insights but thus far has not demonstrated that the club would produce any improvement in adult and youth relationship.

Josephine Raine has worked tirelessly to organize youth activities for the summer. The idea behind the search is to see if it would be possible to create the kind of relationship that will open the doors to the older members and youth of the community that will allow them both to become aware of the need to communicate with others," she says.

A Teacher-Aid graduate from the Mount Royal College of Calgary, employed as such by the Department of Indian Affairs, she says, "The club is the best thing for the kids. They will find someone with whom they can identify through association, visits and older people coming in as guest speakers or just helping out. You can have all kinds of people coming into Hobbema blabbering off their mouths, but the kids don't hear them because they are not being spoken to."

This young woman's eyes light up with enthusiasm as she says, "But if they had a club where they could bring their friends and guest speakers from other

communities and from within their own community of Hobbema, they will find somebody with whom they could identify and what this person is saying. Also, they could learn to speak out to others of their feelings and needs--to lose fear of being scorned.

The Tawow Youth Club's objectives are: to build initiative of the youth; to provide opportunities of the youth to learn responsibilities; to provide information and communication with others and older members of the Hobbema community. Membership is open to any person of ages 13-21 who is Indian or Métis. Associate memberships are open to any person over twenty-one who is residing in the vicinity of Hobbema.

The club has up to now engaged in various activities. They have had a car wash, bake and pop sales and a guest speaker from Edmonton who spoke of the importance of identity.

The club is having a dance and radio raffle in the very near future, and is planning to operate the concession stand at Ma-Me-O Beach this summer where hot dogs, pop, and other items will be sold to raise funds for the club. There present activities consist of speakers and clean-up projects. The next speaker will be the editor of the Wetaskiwin Times, Burt Taylor.

by Bill Lafferty
special to POUNDMAKER

North Garneau: Keeping the

The fate of the North Garneau community has been dangling over the heads of its residents for the last few years. Now, in special policy meetings, -- and at a time when the students are gone -- the Board of Governors is finally moving toward a decision on its future.

By September it will be a 'dead' issue, a fait accompli.

The fact that North Garneau is located next to the campus does not, however, make it only a university issue. It is one of concern to everyone, for any decision will affect and likely change the entire structure of the community, a change which also has consequences for the greater urban community.

Laurent Garneau homesteaded this land on the south bank of the North Saskatchewan River. Time passes and changes the area: in 1908 the University of Alberta anchored its first tentative root on Garneau's land. As the university expanded with more buildings, a Garneau community grew, a residential district of the rich and moderately rich associated with the new university.

The area was nearly completely filled by the depression years.

The spaciousness and elegance of the early twentieth century is the heritage of Garneau: wooden floors, nine-foot ceilings, open fireplaces and odd-twisting crannies to hide in and read a book. And trees. Trees stretching over the streets; trees to climb and trees for bird (and cats and squirrels); dark towering pines of trees, part of a windbreak of some forgotten farm, but not to be ventured past on Halloween night.

Child History

I grew up in Garneau; my childhood memories live in such magic places... belonging to a street gang that made frequent forays to the fire-escapes at St. Stephen's College. We brought home blistered feet and blackened clothes and thrilling tales of how this time we were almost caught but we (and we gloated over our cleverness) had hidden between the landings. The enemy had poured buckets of water down the tower slides but we weren't dislodged.

The community is close to my center and part of my personal history. I cannot be an objective bystander in its destruction.

"The University had been endowed with a large tract of land to the south of the present campus. This land was systematically stripped from the University for the purposes of the Jubilee Auditorium, Aberhart Hospital and other institutions." (From the Brief of the Garneau Community League to the University Senate.)

By 1960 the Long-Range Planning Committee recognized the need to acquire more land, in anticipation of the eventual expansion of the university. More space was needed for the humanities and social sciences, and for the development of new faculties and programs, and for parking facilities.

Limiting the growth of the university or splitting the campus were considered "entirely unacceptable" alternatives.

A recommendation that the university acquire all the land in Garneau from 109th to 112th Streets and from 86th Avenue north to Saskatchewan Drive and in Windsor Park from 116th to 117th Streets and from 87th Avenue to Edinboro Road was considered but eventually first priority was given to the acquisition of the Garneau properties north of 87th Avenue between 112th Street and the university (a cheaper proposition).

By the late 60's almost all of North Garneau had been expropriated and the area between 111th and 112th Streets had been demolished for the Law Center, Fine Arts, Humanities Center and parking --

remaining muddy parking lots for several years before construction began.

In 1968 Diamond and Myers, a Toronto based architectural firm, was employed to survey the campus and prepare an integrated long-range plan of development. The concept of the physical university was changed from buildings sprawled across open expanses of grass and trees to an "urban campus", a consolidated core designed to accommodate the projected enrollment of 30,000 in a smaller area.

Half the expropriated area was no longer needed for academic development and was "free" for non-academic use. The Long Range Development Plan (1969) recommended the construction of sports and recreation facilities in North Garneau between 110th and 111th Streets... partly as a buffer for the proposed 109th Street Freeway.

But circumstances have changed since then. Enrollment stabilized far below the expected 30,000; the freeway never materialized. Such sports facilities as were planned are no longer needed.

The houses remaining in North Garneau have been left in limbo. The university maintained 28 houses for academic purposes (including the two houses used by the Graduate Students' Association and by the Alberta Society for Autistic Children) and the remaining 66 houses and two apartment blocks were rented to students through Royal Trust Ltd.

This was the background for the development of the unique community existing in North Garneau. In the complication of mistakes, stupidities and miscalculations that battered North Garneau, the university inadvertently protected a human space behind its massive cloak.

High-rise developments sprouted in South Garneau and Strathcona - urban growth and economics rarely fail to poison single family neighborhoods near the city core with that deadening grey sameness - it is only by error that this is not happening in North Garneau.

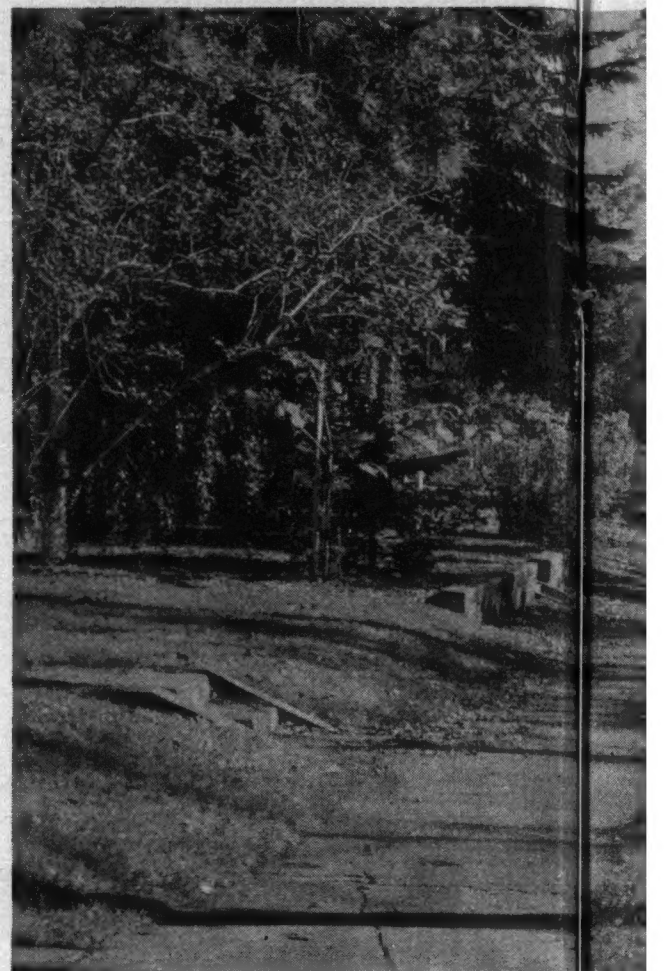
identity

North Garneau responded by becoming the university's soul and the source of its grass-roots culture; music jams; discussions on art over cups of mint tea; vegetarians; personal galleries and converted art studios; the Garneau Growers; visits at midnight; cats everywhere; entomologists next door breeding three-inch cockroaches; co-op houses; street dances; Incredible Edibles; all exploding together under the trees and in the rattletrap houses.

The houses deteriorated with the apparent certainty of demolition in the vague future. It is difficult for transient residents to take responsibility for repairing fences, mowing lawns and repainting flaking walls, and impossible for them to upgrade leaky cellars or faulty wiring. Although in some cases the tenants were irresponsible to the point of destruction, the university would not commit itself to maintenance of the houses.

"Students have claimed that requests for major repairs hasten the demolition of houses and point to parking lots scattered through North Garneau where houses once stood. They lament the 'vicious circle' in which the greater need for repair makes the likelihood of repair increasingly remote." (From the Senate Task Force on Physical Planning - the Future of North Garneau.)

And cars. They rutted the back alleys and turned backyards into parking lots. Early in 1972, a suggestion to widen the lanes by 15 feet to accommodate parking stalls for North Garneau residents, HUB, and staff and students of newly-completed buildings was considered... and abandoned under the deluge of protest. But parking space still remains a priority.



This is the Garneau Ghetto: trees and parking-lot graves, leaded windows and dripping ceilings.

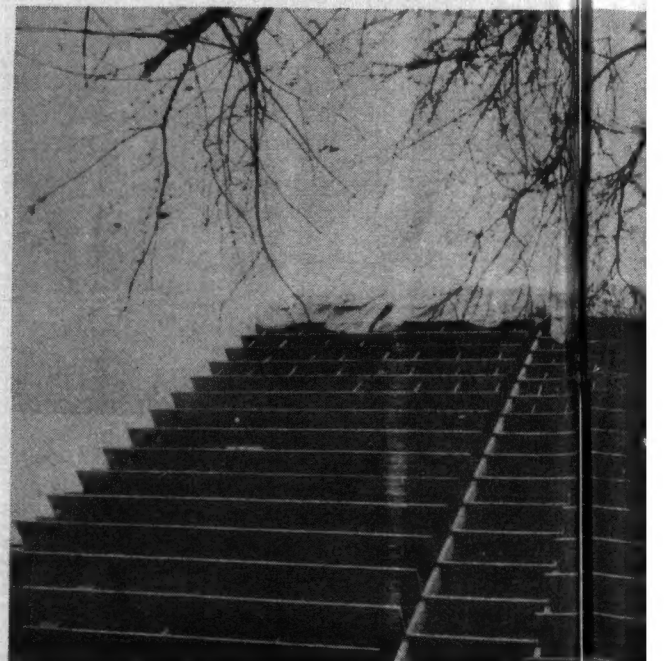
The time has come to reassess the status of North Garneau. The Board of Governors is trapped by the land they expropriated and no longer need.

If only economic values were of concern, the limited capital budget of the university would suggest that the area be sold or developed commercially for maximum financial return, but the issue is too controversial and the district too important to simply dispose of.

The "University will retain ownership and control of the property so far acquired." And that is all that has definitely been decided. (From the May, 1973 report by Vice-President, Planning and Development, W. D. Neal.)

But I grow afraid.

Dr. Neal has made some "tentative proposals" concerning the future of North Garneau. "The North Garneau area should be considered as two separate areas. Area A comprises the land between 112th Street and 111th Street from 87th Avenue to Saskatchewan Drive. On this land four new buildings have been constructed. In this area the underground parkade would most likely be sited. Only seven academic



the wolf from the door



houses along 87th Avenue, plus two on 112th Street remain, and most are in poor condition. All should be demolished and the area landscaped using the many existing trees and shrubs, pending further building development.

"The whole of Area A should be regarded as 'academic' land space and landscaped when parking needs can be satisfied in other ways."

"(3.) Area B comprises that land between 111th Street and 110th Street running from 87th Avenue to Saskatchewan Drive. Most of the houses are rented for housing, a few are being used for academic purposes, some are empty having been relinquished from academic use, and one has been available to the Autistic Children's Society.

"The reports on the houses that have been or are being used for academic purposes are mixed but all would involve heavy expenditure if long term usage is proposed. In view of my further proposals below, I believe a re-evaluation might be made on a different basis, (a basis which will be applied to rented houses, too). Houses which do not measure up to standards (yet to be determined and related mainly to cost) should be demolished.

"(4.) As a long range proposal, I believe that Area B should be converted



to a community park for the benefit of both University and permanent Garneau residents. This may be varied by:

(a) Selecting and retaining in appropriate surroundings a few houses which have architectural merit.

(b) Providing for low level recreation usage, i.e. one open field for such games as rugby, soccer, field hockey, etc., with change rooms incorporated in the underground parkade.

"(5.) All rented houses should be surveyed and estimates made of renovation costs. Some should be demolished where necessary. Others should be renovated on the basis of five years further occupancy. New rental and leasing policies should be drawn up and both University, as landlord, and students, as tenants, should face up to strict commercial standards and procedures with respect to renting policies.

"(6.) If more houses in Area B are demolished, the vacant lots should not be used for parking but should be landscaped as funds permit and in accordance with an overall park plan to be drawn up."

Not me !

No! Please no! It doesn't have to be. I am afraid Dr. Neal's proposal is a compromise that may placate those whose only concerns are the historic and architectural value of the houses and the aesthetic value of the trees. It is only using the space for something... anything. The demand for parks and "low level recreational" facilities is a whisper: "it's not a bad idea."

Understand what I am feeling. Garneau is something more than an historical park. A museum is not a living thing: a park is not shared and cherished and experienced together. Garneau is a community, a fragile and alive place. Walk down its streets at night. People live in the houses - they give muffins to the people in the next house. Out of the chaos and struggles to survive, North Garneau is growing into a new consciousness, breaking the boundaries between the houses, and becoming a co-operative community. A miracle is happening.

Dr. Neal... the Board of Governors are caught in a value system which does not permit them to see North Garneau continuing and developing as a community, as a positive reality. The unlikely creation of North Garneau is not to be nurtured and protected but resented and mistrusted. Almost any other possible alternative is to be considered first: a stadium is needed for the commonwealth games, more parking structures are needed, and an historic park.

Why should the University subsidize housing for an "elite" group of students?

Economic considerations are valid. "A recent assessment of the 'academic houses' revealed that costs for upgrading the houses to a condition in which they could be used as private dwellings would range from \$3,000 to \$16,000, with an average of approximately \$8,200."

Two small points: (1) Of the 27 houses examined, only eight were recommended for demolition. The average costs of repairs on the remaining houses is \$7,000. (2) Tenants have complained in the past that although "service has been prompt, the workmen sent out have often not been competent enough to handle the work and many times they have done more damage than repairs." (This from the proposal of the North Garneau Tenants Association to the Senate Task Force.)

Considering the general co-operative structure of the houses and community (e.g. the North Garneau Tenants' Association) and saving in labour costs, perhaps supervisory and resource people

could be provided to help the residents repair and upgrade the houses themselves.

"What," asks Dr. Neal, "is the University's role in providing housing for its students, for its staff and for the community?" What indeed, but the question seems late in coming after the precedents of Assiniboia, Athabasca, Pembina, Lister, Henday, Mackenzie, and Kelsey Halls, Michener Park and the HUB complex, all housing projects and all funded by one or more bodies at the University. A North Garneau resident bitterly remarked that the University administrators were wary, even frightened of North Garneau because it had no control over the students living there.

The University may be largely concerned with stifling the subversive activity emanating out of the North Garneau district but it is more likely the "silent interests" of the high rise developments in South Garneau that are whispering. The three hundred or so students presently living in "subsidized" university housing would be welcomed by the half-empty apartment blocks.

The Board of Governors does not wish to be locked into a solution. The land was originally acquired to provide space for expansion and if the University commits itself to support a residential community, the possibility of using the land for the original purposes in the future is blocked. As a historical park and/or a light recreational area, the land would be free for now unforeseen developments.

Dr. Neal indicated less than two months ago that plans "to build academic buildings between 110th and 111th Streets are no longer valid." But even in these two months, the situation has changed somewhat. The Faculty of Dentistry wishes to expand to twice its present enrollment quota to remedy the shortage of dentists in Alberta. Is there a shortage of dentists? Well... how long must you wait for an appointment? Such an expansion would require more teaching space, possibly in North Garneau.

Save it !

Until "soul" acquires academic respectability, no one will believe in a North Garneau as it is.

"Couldn't we keep (what remains of) North Garneau as it is? Set the existing houses and yards aright and have people continue to live in them? Could we not do this simply on the grounds that North Garneau is a pleasant place to live in and to walk through; that many of its houses are modestly attractive, visually pleasing in line and in colour and in texture; that they have charm; and that, even with the car-lined streets, this small area provides something of an oasis for the spirit, now increasingly demoralized by the oppressiveness of the spectacular concrete environment bearing in upon it from all sides?"

"Couldn't we preserve this area just as it is simply on the grounds that it possesses a kind of complex and subtle value, a kind that we are now demonstrably unable to reproduce? We should have the confidence to (openly) acknowledge that this type of value is actually important. Then we might be in the position of being able to see that it is not automatically overridden by the "need" for "sporting facilities", the "projected demand" for "parking structures" and all this kind of stuff that we have somehow got into thinking we simply must have." (From a letter to the Senate Task Force from Professor J. C. Mackenzie.)

The importance of North Garneau is as an alternative: to the students as a place to live other than apartment buildings or residences; in the social sense, as a real community in a time when we are isolated and oppressed by an institutionalized and impersonal society.

Let there be something different. Knowing that somewhere a little sunshine still shines, helps make the darkness more bearable.

by Sheila Macdonald

Big brothers keep watch

Credit has probably been around as long as man himself. In the early days of this country, credit was usually extended by the owner of the general store to meet the needs of the early settlers whose cash income was seasonal. It was then regarded as the almost sacred duty of the farmer to diligently repay his debts. But if the crop failed, the small town merchant had to—and usually did wait.

In today's jet-paced society cash to the average consumer is somewhat of an enigma: transient, short lived, and intangible. Instead of going from the pocket to the hand, cash seldom even gets to the pocket. Salaries are paid into bank accounts and cheques pay for what cash is usually exchanged for the goods, services, or other pleasures which themselves are usually bought on time.

Bold words have been written about credit. "Credit has done more to enrich mankind than all the gold in the world. It has exalted labour, stimulated manufacturing, and pushed commerce over every sea," exhorted Daniel Webster.

This it may do, but what about that species of consumer which has appeared no doubt in almost every society and every economic system to date: the overcommitted consumer? What happens to him when he gets caught in the files of some big department store's revolving accounts and can't get out?

Although the commerce of the world is done and paid for largely by credit, Alberta's legislators are beginning to take a dim view of the dazzling glare given off by the brilliant lights which adorn the fine offices of the credit institutions in the province. To ease the debtor's plight, since 1943 laws have been enacted which provide Alberta with what is regarded by many as the most efficient and most comprehensive system of debtor assistance in Canada.

The little known Debtor's Assistance Board set up under these laws provides information, advice, and active assistance in helping the consumer get out of the morass of tangled and conflicting commitments into which he may have signed himself. "It helps debtor—usually overcommitted consumer—to understand their obligations and rights, and to help them solve financial problems," says P. J. Gibeau, chairman of the Board. Its working philosophy is eloquently expressed in a report on personal bankruptcy to the federal minister of consumer affairs: "It has become trite to say that we are living in a consumer credit society. But a society which has created and nurtured credit purchasing as the way of life for the vast mass of its citizens has a concurrent obligation to provide the avenue for the respectable and meaningful recovery from the consequences of the inability to manage credit, its too-easy extension and the apparent hopelessness of over commitment. Relief and rehabilitation of the insolvent consumer should become the underlying philosophy. Debt collection and enforcement of creditors rights must take a secondary position to maintaining the personal debtor as a useful and productive citizen."

This is what the Debtor's Assistance Board does.

Mr. Gibeau argues in a pointed way that "extending credit is like betting on a horse at the races. If it wins you come home smiling. But if it loses you don't get to kick the horse in the ass. This is the way he feels creditors should approach their 'clientele'." P. Bibby, manager of the Credit Bureau of Edmonton, candidly responded to this by pointing out the origin of the word "credit". It comes from a Latin word meaning to "trust" or "believe in", and that failing to pay a debt is a violation of a very basic principle of human civilization he says.

He maintains, however, that the delinquent customer—the overcommitted consumer—is very much in the minority. Indeed, he says that about 87% of his bureau's 400,000 files are on people who have very good credit. "Those that don't are a very small minority group, and like all minorities they are somewhat vocal. Of those who do overcommit themselves, in 98% of the cases, it is their own fault," he continues, "but they blame everyone except themselves. Many of them know very well, even before they buy something that they cannot afford the payments."

Letting figures speak for themselves, government statistics indicate that last year out of a possible 500,000 family units in Alberta only 7,500 applied for debtor's assistance.

"Even grown men act like children. Take for example the case of a man

years.

Personal bankruptcy, however, is only available to people who have no visible or potential means of debt payment. For others, the Board may order a stay on all debts, making creditors wait until the debtor is able to resume payments. And in still other cases, it may take over the administration of the debtor's income giving out a certain amount to his creditors each month, while permitting him only as much as the Board considers necessary to support himself and his family. One hundred dollars for each adult and forty dollars for each child.

Decisions of the Board are final and creditors must accept them. If they persist with court action against an individual, an injunction against the action is usually issued and if a garnishee has been obtained, it also can be re-

purposes, from their income. And, he says, if they still want to recover this money they can increase prices a little bit next year."

Although many businesses do this, says Mr. Bibby, such bad debts can only be written off temporarily. The federal government, although allowing it, expects the business to attempt to recover at least some of these debts. Any that are recovered must be redeclared as income.

This is where collection agencies come in. Many creditors sell bundles of uncollectable accounts to them. "For example," says Mr. Gibeau, "\$1,000 worth of debt may be sold for \$100, or percentage agreements may be drawn up with the collectors. Under such an agreement the collection agency may get a fixed take-off, which often varies with the size of the debt to be collected."

These parasites of the free enterprise system as many people prefer to call them, resort to a wide variety of bullying and harassing techniques in order to make their "clients" pay. Mr. Bibby, whose Bureau also operates a collection agency, sees little wrong with this line of work.

Defending the perhaps well known way in which these agencies use the telephone as an instrument of terror, Mr. Bibby said their methods merely reflect the attitudes of people from whom they try to collect. "For some of the things they say over the telephone to our staff I would like to sue," he said. Most of these collectors, says Mr. Gibeau, use euphemisms to try to make people pay. "No merchant is compelled to grant credit, and if he does, well, he must be prepared to face the possible consequences."

Supposedly this is one reason why the credit bureau is in operation. Established in 1922, it is financed by businesses to keep track of customer reliability. It is just an information collection agency. It receives credit information from all its members—which, by the way, include all levels of government, sorts it, and then files it.

In their reports, businesses or credit institutions, following a nation-wide standardized delinquency scale of 1 to 9, grade their customers' accounts. If accounts are paid promptly a credit rating of one is given to the customer's bill. If, however, the business is unable to collect payment after 180 days, the account is given a nine.

"It should be emphasized," says Mr. Bibby, "that we do not grade the accounts ourselves. We merely record the grades on each person's file. This information is available free to any members of the bureau by telephone or even to non-members who file a request for such information and pay a small fee. Interested individuals, who for some special reason desire knowledge of their own rating, may also obtain this information for free provided they make such a request in person and fill out a suitable form. They must, however, give a bone fide reason satisfactory to us."

The Credit Bureau of Edmonton employs about 52 people. The records section of the department has 50 telephones and processes about 25,000 pieces of information a month.

If the debtor thinks that he can hide from his creditors, he may be mistaken. The bureau, and all the other bureaus in the nearly world-wide organization, have staff which do nothing but attempt to find "missing people". The long line of the bureaus' communications system permits a quick "wanted" bulletin to be issued to all its offices. If the delinquent debtor applies for credit again, knowledge of his address will be circulated to all interested parties.

"Businessmen and collectors especially 'see red'," says Mr. Bibby, "when people who say they can't afford to pay their debts continue to spend and buy



who has been working for 14 years and has a very good paying job. Now in his job, this man wears a uniform which distinguishes him as a very responsible member of our society, but this man had contracted such debts that his monthly payments exceeded his monthly income by \$300. He bought a boat, a car, a skidoo, and had a wife and family to support. In fact he was even doing odd jobs, and since he was doing shift work he frequently worked 20 hours a day. But he still could not make ends meet. Merchants would not even check on his credit rating, but would sell to him on the basis of his uniform."

Regardless of who is at fault, the Debtor's Assistance Board does not make value or moral judgments. In helping the debtor, the Board may even go as far as to declare the individual bankrupt, at a cost which may even be waived if the applicant is destitute. This will free the debtor from all public and private debts.

Mr. Bibby, however, mentions that his Credit Bureau—and there are 158 bureaus operating in Canada as well as others throughout the world, all of which are interconnected and exchange information—keeps a record of all bankruptcies for at least 14 years. Other "infractions" are erased after six

strained.

This service is free and is provided to everyone. If legal services are required, clients are referred to the public legal aid service.

Besides eliminating a bothersome creditor, the Debtor's Assistance Board tries to educate people in the ways of avoiding debt, does research into the causes of why and how people go into debt, and recommends debtor legislation to the government.

Most people are referred to the Board by employers who usually understand their employee's situation and want to stop their phone from ringing with calls from "friendly" collecting agencies. Actually, according to the Act under which these collectors are licensed, they are not permitted to phone your employer or you at your place of work. If they do, they may be reported to the Attorney General's department, and face a possible loss of their license. However, it is a little difficult to prove that they, indeed, did phone, and that they, indeed, were harassing you.

Mr. Gibeau sees little need for such organizations. "Most businesses," he says "are well enough protected. Any losses may be written off as bad debts, which can then be subtracted, for tax

over us

things such as colour T.V.'s. They phone and say that they cannot pay because they need money to buy plates for their car; or they can't make their ten dollar-a-month payments because they have a new car to worry about. Or after speaking to someone about their over-due account you find them sitting next to you at the football game. And you know how much those tickets cost.

"We receive many complaints from people about our activities," he continues, "and get about three threats of legal suit a week from angry consumers. They think that is our fault that they can't get a loan. A man who has been sued twice by two banks for failing to repay his loans, hired a lawyer to have his credit records examined because he could not get a loan, from a third bank. In explanation, I suggested he try and get it from the banks he had previously failed to repay.... In any event, the Bureau has one-quarter of a million dollars worth of insurance to protect itself against such people.

"Our staff is bonded and must sign a secrecy declaration. Even soliciting members are not permitted to know exactly the names of the firms with whom individuals deal. All that is ever given out is the type of firm with whom the person previously dealt and his credit rating.

If you are having trouble with your creditors, interesting legal points to keep in mind, brought up in discussions with Mr. Gibeau concerning consumer rights, include NSF cheques. A faulty cheque given in payment for goods or services received constitutes fraud, and one may be prosecuted accordingly. NSF payments on accounts and NSF post-

dated cheques given in exchange for cash are not, however, fraudulent acts but merely, in these cases, constitute broken promises--to pay, or repay.

Landlords may have a bailiff seize furniture in lieu of rent payments. He cannot however, seize it himself. If the tenant leaves during the night the landlord has rights to the tenant's furnishings for only 30 days--if he can find him; otherwise he must resort to the claims court.

If a business man threatens you through his lawyer with a big court action for an \$8 bill, don't be alarmed. The most that he can probably do is to proceed against you in a small claims court where the "costs" of the action are not more than \$4. You will probably be threatened with payment of his lawyers fees, too, but says Mr. Gibeau, any higher court will "throw the case out".

One thing that should be remembered is that in order to make you appear in court you must be given a summons. This summons must be delivered to you in person or through registered mail. Under these circumstances it must be accepted and you then must appear in court. If you do not, a judgment will be automatically made against you by the judge. But, of course, if they can't find you or your home address, and since it can't be sent to your place of work or business, well....

An insight into Mr. Bibby's opinion of the Debtor's Assistance Board is indicated by his closing remarks. "I have known Mr. Gibeau very well for many years. And what Mr. Gibeau may say may only reflect the line of the people for whom he is working."



...and help themselves

Must all businesses give refunds to their customers? On demand? Are fantastically low prices always baited advertising? How are you protected by the Direct Sales Cancellation Act?

If your answer to any of the above is "I don't know", then read on to find out where the answers to these questions, and many more like them, can be easily found--at the offices of the Better Business Bureau.

The Edmonton Branch of the Better Business Bureau is an off-shoot of the American organization of the same name which was established in New York in 1922.

The Edmonton branch, while completely in the hands of local members, is one of 152 offices which must follow the general policy lines set down by the New York organization in order to qualify for recognition as a Bureau. Members of local bureaus cannot advertise their products or services nor can they use their membership as a sales advantage. Although membership lists are given out upon request, the only other way a member can display his membership is with a small bureau plaque which cannot be placed in a business window.

Each bureau is non-profit, self-governing, and completely autonomous and funded entirely by its own members. The bureaus, however, maintain communication with each other, an aspect of the operation which increases its value and effectiveness. Offices in the United States, Canada, South America, and Great Britain collect and compile information on business which

is completely available to anyone upon request.

In Edmonton, annual meetings elect 20 Directors of the Bureau who serve with no pay, and who select an executive council. Meetings of the council are held on the first Tuesday of each month. "Members are expected to serve quietly behind the scenes" says W. Stutti, manager of the Edmonton Bureau, "and surprisingly they work very hard."

The Better Business Bureau founded on the philosophy that in order for the private enterprise system to work properly it must be fair. "Business realizes," says Mr. Stutti, "that good business requires satisfied customers." On this basis, only businesses which have demonstrated their acquiescence to these principles are admitted. Members who do not, or who subsequently do not after joining, are refused membership or expelled.

Last year two businesses were expelled. Indeed, says Mr. Stutti, if admission is refused, even government lobbying is of no avail.

The Bureau offers three main services to the public in the areas of advertising, fact recording, and consumer education.

In Canada, although advertising comes under the control of the Combines Act, implementing these laws is slow and tedious. One case of government action against an advertiser took over 16 months. The Bureau, says Mr. Stutti, operates much more quickly,

and cheaply.

Although it cannot monitor all advertising in its area of jurisdiction--which is all of Alberta as well as the Peace River region of British Columbia--any misleading or otherwise unethical advertising that it does see or that is brought to its notice by the public, is first brought to the attention of the advertiser.

Usually this is sufficient for the advertiser to withdraw the offending ad. If he does not his advertising medium is approached. According to Mr. Stutti the radio and t.v. stations in Edmonton are "very good" in this respect, so good in fact that "one T.V. station will not even run any new ads without first consulting the Bureau".

If the advertiser still persists with his ad, the matter is brought to the attention of the federal government and steps toward prosecution are begun.

The Edmonton Better Business Bureau is the only organization which is permitted to compile such information on businesses and businessmen, as well as the only group to give out this information over the telephone to anyone. In its over 16,000 files, the Better Business Bureau has on record the number of complaints it has received from a firm's customers over the last three years, and the way in which, if any, the firm has made restitution.

Any one who wants to lodge a complaint need simply write a signed and dated letter to the Bureau. It will then approach the business, and if it feels the complaint is legitimate, it will

intervene on the consumer's behalf. Response to most complaints is usually prompt. It must be remembered, says Mr. Stutti, that not all businesses are out to get the unwary customer. Many of the complaints are based on "what's not good enough for the customer at the moment, but which under extenuating circumstances, is all the businessman is able to do."

The customer does get taken occasionally, it is true, but this is usually the result of the customer not knowing what his rights actually are. One cannot expect all the transactions which occur during a day in Edmonton to be strictly on the level, he said.

A large number of the complaints the Bureau receives are honest, although a few are obviously attempts by customers to take advantage of the sellers. The complaint of a girl who buys a necklace on Friday to wear over the weekend and then returns it on Monday "because she no longer likes it" is an example.

To quote a Better Business Bureau brochure, "All sales are final", unless the terms of the sale or policy of the seller makes them otherwise.... (stores who grant refunds) do this as a "privilege" rather than as a legal obligation.... Stores are not required to post signs regarding refunds, or exchanges, although some stores may do so or may provide such notice on sales slips.... If a seller misrepresents or if the merchandise is defective, you are justified

cont. page 14

When your boss won't pay — here's what to do

by Ross Harvey

Not every employer is honest. Or fair.

There are, within the broad scope of commerce in Edmonton and Alberta, a significant number of employers who, for one reason or another, attempt to short-change their employees for wages, vacation pay, or overtime.

Some workers, through the prompt action of their unions, are able to deal with their tight-fisted employers promptly and get the money they are owed.

Others, both unionized and non-unionized, are not so lucky. They are faced with the depressing prospect of attempting to coerce their employer into handing over their rightful pay. And in most situations, especially in non-union shops, workers have something less than decisive coercive potential. Short of threats of physical violence, which are in themselves illegal, the wronged worker can do little but badger his employer in the hopes of eventually wearing him down.

Unless he goes to the Board of Industrial Relations.

Empowered under the Alberta Labour Act to investigate cases of alleged violations of sections of the Act, the Board primarily concerns itself with cases where, through some sort of chicanery, an employer has managed to withhold money that is rightfully owed to an employee.

"This type of thing is on the increase," said Bill Maday, Director of the Labour Standards Division of the Board. "In 1971 we had 603 cases go to court. In 1972 it was 1,500. And it's going to be real high again this year."

"Our collections are way up this year over the same time last year—up to 20 per cent higher this year," he said.

If a person has a complaint about unpaid wages, unpaid annual vacation pay, unpaid overtime, payment less than minimum wage (\$1.75 an hour for everyone 18 and over, and for students; and \$1.60 for all people under 18 who aren't students), or unpaid holiday pay (called statutory holiday pay), he can file a claim for his money.

Complaints should be made in writing. Forms for filing complaints are available at the Board's various offices.

Once made, the complaint is investigated by field workers from the Labour Standards Division. These investigations can include the auditing of all time and payroll records which the employer is required by law to keep and the interrogation of the employer and appropriate witnesses.

If the complaint is found to be valid, the employer is then presented with a demand to make restitution. He is given 7 to 10 days to do so.

If the employer still fails to pay the employee, he is then liable to court action—a fairly common occurrence. The Board takes responsibility for ini-

tiating this action. If convicted, the employer faces penalties including fines of up to \$500 for each employee affected, court costs, plus an order to pay the employee the money owed him.

Under the new Alberta Labour Act, to be introduced into the legislature this year, a "natural person" (an individual employer, not a corporation) found guilty of non-payment of rightfully owed earnings will be subject to fines of up to \$5000.

The order for payment of the employee's earnings, if not satisfied, is filed with the clerk of the Alberta Supreme Court. A natural person who fails to follow the first court order is subject to further court action with the penalty of a sentence.

When a corporation is convicted, the employee is permitted to start further court action against the officers and directors of the corporation personally. In this he gets no further help from the Board of Industrial Relations beyond being supplied with the evidence and documents that they have gathered.

In the case of a corporation, the new Labour Act provides that, if convicted, the officers and directors of the company can be fined up to \$5,000 each and the corporation itself can be fined \$10,000, plus being subject to

an order of payment of the employee's earnings.

During 1972, the Board, in the course of investigations and court cases involving 9,000 complaints, visited 11,000 places of business and collected a total of \$485,000 for 5,555 people.

"The biggest offenders are for non-payment of wages—\$256,000 in 1972," said Mr. Maday. "But we also handle complaints about working conditions like toilet facilities, clean water, lunchrooms, etc."

Bill Maday's biggest problem is the habitual offender, the employer who tries to cheat his employees out of earnings time after time.

"The fellow that knowingly and habitually is an offender can expect to wind up in a court room. These people should be bonded. Quote me if you want, I'm tired of it."

"Like some contractors, for instance. He doesn't have to have a license, no assets, anything. He just sets himself up to be a contractor."

"He then goes to Canada Manpower to hire men, men who in some cases won't get paid."

Mr. Maday feels that in the cases of such habitual offenders, "who are known not to pay employee's earnings and who fail to abide the orders for payment issued by the courts", the

Board through its Labour Standards Division, "should have the... authority to compel this type of an employer to file a surety bond with the division for the purpose of assuring payment of wages to workmen."

Although the workmen assisted are never broken down officially into categories, Maday finds that "students are particularly susceptible. You wait until next August or September; they'll be in here in droves."

He advises that, as guard against ever being caught in a situation where an employer refuses to pay the money owing you, everybody should keep their paylips showing earnings and deductions, and an accurate daily time record.

"A lot of people don't keep this (the daily time record). They think the boss has got it or somebody else has got it and then they find out they're being gyped."

Anybody with a complaint can phone 429-7451 and ask for a complaints officer or an information officer. The Board also has offices in Grande Prairie, Red Deer, Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, and Calgary.

And anybody who wants to file a complaint can have his name held in confidence.

The offices of the division are on the 8th floor of the IBM Building, located at 10808 99-Avenue.

from page 13

in expecting satisfactory adjustment or a refund... Otherwise, because you "change your mind", you have no more legal right to a refund than the merchant has to ask you to return the merchandise he sold to you because he changed his mind and didn't want to sell it... (Refunding) is a privilege that should not be abused by needless return of merchandise, which adds tremendously to the cost of doing business and penalizes all customers."

In an attempt to educate the public in the methods and legalities of business, the Better Business Bureau offers free consumer education courses in many of Edmonton's high schools, the text book for which it prepared itself. The provincial government gives it funds to help it do this.

"What infuriates me" says Mr. Stutt "is that consumer education courses are given only as electives in the high schools. A child taught in high school often comes out more aware of his rights and responsibilities as a consumer than does the average 50 year old man of today." The Bureau also prepares numerous booklets and pamphlets which are available to the public.

Government involvement in activities similar to those of the Bureau is carried out by the Consumer Affairs Branch of the federal government. The cost of its functions, according to Mr. Stutt, indicates how much more cheaply and efficiently private business can do certain things. According to comparable figures it costs the Federal government over \$500 to handle one complaint compared to the Bureau

cost of \$1.40 per item.

By the way, the answers to the questions asked at the beginning of this article are: not necessarily; no-baited advertising is the offering of low-priced merchandise with no intention of selling it, in an attempt to get customers into the store; the Act permits the buyer of direct-sale merchandise the right to cancel his contract within four days, Sundays not included, without explanation.

If you scored three out of three, then it must be admitted that you're pretty smart; two or one points out of three, well you might survive unscathed shopping today; none, well you're nothing but an over-ripe plum just ready for the pick'n: a word of advice—run over to the nearest office of the Credit Bureau at 10240 -124St., or phone 482-2341.



Fun for all at Y camp

What can you do with your kids this summer that won't cost you an arm and a leg?

The Y. W. C. A. is offering a Day Camp this summer to give city kids a chance to get out into the country and experience frogs, other kids and themselves.

It is a 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. camp, five days a week with each camp being

two weeks in length.

Three times a week the campers visit a beautiful wooded O. T. S. Park near Ellerslie. On the other two days, the camp is held in the Y. W. C. A. building and at nearby city parks.

The program includes arts and crafts, swimming on Tuesdays and Fridays, hiking, nature lore, campcraft, drama and games.

Parents are invited out to attend

Family Night at the camp when everyone including the dog can participate in an evening's program planned by the campers and staff.

Campers are divided into age groups, under the supervision of trained staff and volunteers. There is a craft specialist, games specialist and counsellor-in-training director on staff also.

The cost of the camp is \$28 for two weeks or \$14 for one week. Provincial welfare will pay the total fee for those families on Provincial welfare. If you find these fees a little high, there are camp scholarships available to assist you with part of the fee. Arrangements can also be made to pay the fee in two parts.

The Y. W. C. A. Day Camp also offers a Counsellor-In-Training program for boys and girls 15 years and older. This course is designed to train young knowledgeable counsellors. The program includes films, discussions, practical day camp experience and planning special events. There is a Counsellor-In-Training Director who is responsible to the program.

This is an 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. training course, five days a week, for any of the day camp sessions. There is

no fee charged for this service.

The dates for the Day Camp are:
July 2 to July 13 (2 weeks)
July 16 to July 27 (2 weeks)
July 30 to August 10 (2 weeks)
August 13 to August 17 (1 week)

For more information about Y. W. C. A. camps and other programs, call Carol Frazer or Leslie Hughes at 422-8176.

In addition to the day camp program, the Y. W. C. A. offers swimming of all levels for all ages. Babies as young as six months old are welcome in the Water Babies classes. Mother or Dad must accompany small children in the pool of course. There are classes for pre-schoolers and two weeks or one month courses for children and adults.

The first level of swimming offered for adults is descriptively called "Absolutely terrified" for those who are. Also there is a stroke correction class to improve style and techniques.

The plunge schedule is set up so that adults and families can swim on a casual basis during the day or evening. Fees for these classes vary from \$3.50 to \$12.50 depending on the number and length of classes.

Should you need assistance with the fee, arrangements can be made.

For further information call the Y. W. C. A. at 422-8176.

Foster parents cont'd from page 20

Severely mentally retarded children and those with insurmountable handicaps live in institutions. The in-between-ones, those who are not ready for life in a foster home but do not require institutional care, live in group homes or cottages.

And the vast majority even those who, in former years, were difficult or impossible to place because of race, religion, or various handicaps (mental and physical) live

in foster homes. Or are waiting to do so. There is a constant need for foster homes and foster parents.

For further information, phone 229-3582, or write to:

Foster Parent Program
Second Floor East
Administration Building
10820-98 Ave.
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 0C8

media time



CHANNEL
eleven

METROPOLITAN EDMONTON EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION ASSOCIATION
9311 - 68 AVENUE EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA T6E 0C2

Thursday June 21, 1973

8:00 PM BURMA VICTORY; The Burma Campaign from 1942 to the capitulation of the Japanese in Rangoon is documented.

Friday June 22, 1973

7:30 PM SAILING #10 Going Foreign; This program looks at a channel crossing from Cowes, England to Cherbourg France
8:30 PM; COMMUNICATIONS #16 Crisis in the Classroom; Charles Silberman author of the bestseller, describes a successful educational experiment - the informal school.

Monday June 25, 1973

8:00 PM; AROLLO 17; Documentary about the final voyage to the moon in the Apollo space program. Pictured are the astronauts in preparation, in their capsule on the way to the moon and extravehicular activities.
8:30 PM; ELECTRONICS 10 #8 Building a Circuit; This is the final in the series. The program concentrates on the do's and Don'ts of circuitry.

Tuesday June 26, 1973

7:30PM INTERCHANGE #11; University of Manitoba professor and author, George Swinton talks about his book on Eskimo Art and shares his knowledge with the viewers.
8:15 PM CHECKPOINT; This week the Canadian Cancer Society and how it stresses the importance of regular checkups for the whole family and the need for community cancer education.

Wednesday June 27, 1973

7:30 PM THE IMMORTALS-Beethoven; First in a series on the period and circumstances in which some of the immortals lived. This first program concentrates on Beethoven. Produced by the Department of Radio and TV at the University of Alberta by Ralph Beaumont.
8:30PM THE FORTH ROAD BRIDGE; This film takes a look at the construction of the Firth of Forth bridge in Scotland. The longest suspension bridge in Europe.

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FRIDAY (June 22)

6:45 P.M.	UNIVERSITY CONCERT HALL:	The St. Cecilia Orchestra, Michael Bowle, conductor. Beethoven - Egmont Overture; Haydn - Symphony No. 104. Songs by Dr. Violet Archer, Professor of Music, U of A. June Hunt, mezzo-contralto; Albert Krywolt, piano.	Don McLean
8:00 P.M.	PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA:	Eugene Ormandy, conductor; Thomas Stewart, baritone. Wagner: Overture and Venusberg Music, Tannhauser; Excerpts from Die Meistersinger; Prelude and Love-Death from Tristan; Siegfried Idyll; Wotan's Farewell and Magic Fire Music from Die Walkure.	
9:45 P.M.	25th FRAME:	A view of the film Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid.	Stephen Scobie
10:30 P.M.	PACIFICA:	Interviews with some of the men who frequent a pool room in New York.	

SATURDAY (June 23)

9:00 A.M.	NEW DIMENSIONS OF EDUCATION:	A view of the changes which the Chinese have made in their educational system.	
9:30 A.M.	AGE OF THE AMBEROLAS:	Program produced from original Edison cylinders and discs, re-recorded with modern sound techniques.	
11:00 A.M.	SHOWTIME:	Music from Princess Ida.	Murray Davis

SUNDAY (June 24)

12:15 P.M.	YOUR WORLD:	The way in which the spread of avant-garde ideas has affected the concept of taste in art.	
1:00 P.M.	SUMMER THEATRE:	The Rose Tattoo by Tennessee Williams, with Maureen Stapleton.	Jay Smith

MONDAY (June 25)

11:30 A.M.	DIALOGUE:	Joyce Cyrus, with the Canadian University Services Overseas talks about human relations and the work of CUSO.	Drake McHugh
6:45 P.M.	THE MUSIC HOUR:	Saint-Saens: Samson & Delilah, highlights.	Don McLean
7:45 P.M.	UNESCO RADIO:	Programs on the human environment. Today's broadcast is concerned with the Developing World.	
8:00 P.M.	THE SYNCOPATED TUNING FORK:	Informal discussion of music.	Ted Kardash
9:00 P.M.	THE DEKOVEN CONCERT:	"Women in Music"	Dekoven
10:30 P.M.	CREATIVE PEOPLE:	Conversation with artist Harry Savage.	George McInch

TUESDAY (June 26)

11:30 A.M.	TALKING ABOUT BOOKS:	Interview with Ivan Bernard Robson, author of a book of poems concerning Indian people, their culture and the myths whites have collected them.	Dorothy Dahlgren
7:45 P.M.	MEN AND MOLECULES:	Discussion of cosmic ray astronomy, a unique way of studying the universe.	
8:00 P.M.	SPEAK YOUR MIND:	Open-line discussion.	Drake McHugh
10:30 P.M.	ACME SAUSAGE COMPANY:	Music by "Wizard".	Marc Vasey

WEDNESDAY (June 27)

6:45 P.M.	THE MUSIC HOUR:	Corrette: Sonata for Cello and Harpsichord in D; Beethoven: Serenade in D; Mozart: Piano Quartet K.476.	Don McLean
7:45 P.M.	SCOPE:	Report on the work of the U.N. and its related agencies.	
8:00 P.M.	BOSTON SYMPHONY CONCERT:	Renowned B.S.O. recorded in concert.	
10:30 P.M.	NORTHERN FOLK:	Featuring songs of Leonard Cohen.	Peter White & Holger Petersen

THURSDAY (June 28)

6:45 P.M.	THE MUSIC HOUR:	Haydn: Symphony No. 84; Mozart: Violin Concerto No. 6 K.271a.	Don McLean
7:45 P.M.	MEN AND MOLECULES:	Atomic solutions to crime, environmental and other puzzles.	
8:00 P.M.	JAZZ INTERACTIONS:	Conversations with Harvey Siders, West Coast Editor of Down Beat Magazine.	Marc Vasey
9:00 P.M.	MATT HEDLEY PRESENTS:	An all-Canadian artist program.	Matt Hedley
10:30 P.M.	ACME SAUSAGE COMPANY:	Music performed by Peter Mark and Viola Braun-Fox.	Marc Vasey

How (and where) to get good

by Cheryl Croucher

When you talk about health food, you're really talking about food that promotes good health. But just because you may buy something in a health food store, it does not necessarily mean you're buying good health.

What affects your health is what your body digests, its nutritive value determined by production techniques—how the food is raised, processed, stored, and cooked.

The less you know about what happens to the food on your plate, the more you are subject to the "Great Food Rip-off".

Since we are not self-sufficient, we foolishly depend upon local supermarkets to provide us with a wide range of good food. But food buyers know little if anything about nutrition. And more important, as long as a product sells, what does it matter to them?

Don't kid yourself. Food is processed for the convenience of the industry, not the consumer.

That's why you won't find organic food in the ordinary grocery store.

To prevent spoilage and prolong shelf-life, processors denature and adulterate food with chemicals until what's left is only stuff. (Ever wonder what a foodstuff was?) It may look pretty, but it's about as wholesome as a puffball. Preservatives are added, but since the life-supporting organic substances are

a quick and high profit. They can afford to charge dearly because their line is select and because of the false attitude that if something is supposedly beneficial, it should cost a lot.

Secondly, most natural food is perishable, so handling and storage are important. Proper care, apparently, costs. Refrigeration should be the rule of thumb, but almost every health food store in the city keeps its goods on shelves at room temperature.

Natural food must be refrigerated to preserve many of the nutrients, especially vitamin E, and prevent weevils and other life forms from developing. Beware of the store that sells wheat germ off the shelf. It means the owner hasn't a clue about health food.

As an example of how people are taken advantage of—wheat germ sells for a standard 25 cents a pound in the health food stores. Some places keep it in the freezer, others don't. Some sell organically grown, stoneground wheat germ, others don't. But the chain grocery stores are selling wheat germ in 12 oz. bottles for 65 cents.

Not only is it sitting on the shelf, but the germ is already the cast-off "wastage" from flour refining plants (removed to make the flour white). The germ is discarded so that manufacturers can enrich their pasteboard white bread.

Health food stores also sell dried fruits, nuts and seeds—expensive because they are imported and usually organically grown. The price on shelled sunflower seeds, for example, varies from 59 cents for 12 oz. to over \$1 for 16 oz.

That health food is a potentially high profit business is pointed out clearly in the price list circulated by SACK Foods.

SACK (in the process of establishing a health food line along with the others) by buying in bulk, will be selling at cost plus 5 percent for freight.

List Comparison

The point is, unless you know your vitamins, how food should be handled, then every store, be it health food or supermarket, is out to rip you off, one way or another. Exotic fruit and dehydrated celery tablets will not make you any healthier than enriched white bread or potato chips. A balanced diet is the only answer.

There is no need to spend a lot of money to eat healthfully. Shopping around, proper handling, storage, and cooking methods will ensure healthy meals while you find alternatives to your existing eating habits and the present food buying situation.

The less food is handled and processed, the more vitamins and minerals

cakes, have yogurt with fruit.

Once these small changes are accomplished, start growing a garden. Compare lettuce at 59 cents a pound for one salad in the grocery stores to a row or two grown from a 15 cent packet of seed that will make sandwiches and salads all summer.

A compost heap is more effective than chemical fertilizers and saves on pollution. Chemical fertilizers leach the soil which eventually produces plants with less protein, vitamins, and minerals and more carbohydrates than they should and could have.

Substitute brown rice and converted white rice for the instant and polished varieties or imitations.

Save more money and nutrients by making your own wholewheat bread and yogurt. Yogurt is very simple to make and is about half the price of the commercial garbage.

Thoroughly blend 1 large can of evaporated milk, 1 1/2 cups of non-instant skim milk powder, 3 tablespoons of yogurt, and 6 cups of tepid water. Pour into warm jars and incubate in a pot of water between 105 and 118 F degrees, on top of the stove about 4 hours or until it "gels". Cover the yogurt with a cloth throughout the process as light destroys the Vitamin B₂. Store in the fridge.

Sprout alfalfa seeds and mung and soy beans. Vitamin C is produced when seeds sprout. The sprouts can be served with sandwiches, in salads, or eaten by themselves like popcorn.

Serve more liver—it is cheap, low in calories, and a rich source of B-complex vitamins, vitamin E, iron, protein, and many more essential nutrients.

Fish is great for vitamin D, as well as the other vitamins, minerals, and protein.

Perhaps our most expensive food item is meat—eaten mainly for protein. We can get protein from other sources; but the source must be complete because only when the essential amino acids are present at the same time will protein be formed in our bodies.

brewers yeast

To test your progress, gum away on a slice of white bread. See if you have not discovered your taste buds and stepped along the way to becoming a health (food) nut.

The next part is probably the hardest -- introducing brewers yeast into your diet. It is the hardest, not because it tastes awful, but because it means the breakdown of old habits, developing a new way of living, and less invitations to Sunday dinners. Nobody likes a health food nut except other health food nuts.

By this time, you will find it difficult to go grocery shopping, because the stores do not supply what you want and you find yourself criticizing all the food products and coming away empty-handed rather than making compromises.

There must be another way.

There is, but it depends upon you. It requires taking responsibility for production and distribution of your own food.

Food co-ops are the beginning, a move in the right direction.

As Dave Davis of SACK says, "All people who are into natural foods can't afford to buy what they want at health food stores. We intend to make good food available at cost plus freight so people can spend as little time as possible earning money for food and can conserve their energy for more worthwhile endeavors."

Health food stores will not supply co-ops with health food because they know they will be undercut. And most health food wholesalers will not supply the co-ops because they are afraid of losing the retailers as customers. So, what SACK cannot get from local organic and natural food farmers, such as stoneground wholewheat flour, wheat germ, honey and eggs, they can only



removed, particularly in bleached refined white flour, what is there to preserve? And in that case, what is there to support us?

The consumers' interests do not enter into the producers', handlers', or buyers' considerations. Rather, through advertizing, packaging, and muzak, they shape the interests of the consumers to suit THEM.

Not much better are so-called health food dealers who stock their shelves with synthetic vitamins and medicinal concoctions, not because health comes in pills and bottles, but because that's where the profit lies. The mark-up on these is well over 200 percent.

Outrageous prices is the major complaint against shopping in health food stores (but then, isn't all "food" expensive now). The several reasons for high prices include the fad status and perishability of natural food.

First, many people get into the health food business because they CAN turn

Wholewheat flour is another myth. The flour is wholewheat because it has the germ and the bran, although commercial brands use white refined flour with a bit of old germ and bran thrown back. Every store keeps its whole wheat flour on the shelf. The general reason given is that it would move fast enough that the vitamins would not be lost.

Not true. Wholewheat flour, for maximum nutrient value, should be stoneground and used within a day of milling. Otherwise it should be stored in a freezer. The price on "real" wholewheat flour is 89 cents for 5 pounds -- the commercial mixture is much less, in more ways than one.

The food industry is cashing in on the crunchy granola trip by putting out "natural" cereals in tiny boxes and charging horrendous prices for them. One granola product ranged from 73 to 85 cents per pound. Surprisingly enough, people buy the junk and even health food stores carry it.

are present. So, always buy the freshest food possible.

Secondly, buy only what you need and what you have room to store. Citrus fruits and bananas can be kept in the cupboard while other fruits and vegetables must go in the fridge.

Thirdly, when preparing food, wash quickly, in cool water. Don't soak a food as nutrients are dissolved in water. Leave peels on vegetables and fruits since most of the vitamins and minerals are concentrated in and just under the skins and shells.

Serve raw for maximum wholesomeness as heat and water breakdown and destroy vitamins. Or, if the food must be cooked, either steam it or cook in a very little liquid, preferably its own juices. Save the liquid to put in the sauce, gravy, or a soup.

When cooking meat, bake and roast rather than fry.

Serve wholewheat and 7-grain bread instead of white. Rather than pies and

...and why, too!

food

get through Lifestream of Vancouver. SACK's selection will be limited to plain but wholesome, natural food.

Co-operatives, of course, are subversive organizations.

Co-operatives undermine the exploitive profit-making system because they cut out the parasitic middle-men. Money goes directly to shippers and producers. There is no one else to take a cut, so the cost to the consumer is lowered.

And the consumers control the co-operatives since the consumers order the food. I might add, however, that retailers have managed a nice little coup de grace in that to operate a co-op, you must have a wholesaler's licence, which is only granted if the co-op is in a commercial area.

Co-operatives require people helping people, they require involvement. This again is subversive in that it changes social attitudes, social orientation, social organization. When you are involved, you know what is going on, what is wrong, what must be changed. You are not satisfied to let some government bureaucrat shuffle you around. You shuffle him around and right out the door on his rear.

The next step for co-operatives is to gain control of the food producers so

they will produce food that concerned, involved, active consumers will eat and be healthy with. Or, consumers will produce their own food and drive the big corporate producers out of business. Without a market, what kind of business do they have?

All the reasons for co-ops are also reasons for supporting the boycotts against Kraft, Dare, Angola coffee, and Iceberg lettuce.

I suppose you think all this is inconvenient, that it takes time to prepare food properly, to grow a garden, to run around from place to place getting the right food, and being involved. Well, do you find illness and malnutrition convenient?

Why eat healthfully when there are doctors, operations, pills, and wonderdrugs? --Because a strong healthy body is resistant to disease, infection and parasites. And when injuries and sickness do occur, the body heals faster and less damage is done. The mind is brighter and sharper. And if life is not prolonged, at least the best years of life are.

The way you eat is based on tradition bad habits, and "taste" rather than science and reason. Your eating habits are a sign of the weakness, extravagance,



and irresponsibility that pervade this society. By changing them, you can change the world, for the better.

Economy does not mean cheapness. It means getting your money's worth. It means quality. By demanding quality, you demand change in the very value system of this society.

Are you really willing to continue paying more and more for the food of which you are getting less and less, because it is convenient NOT to change, because it is easier to close your eyes and die of malnutrition than to open them and live? After all, what is food if it does not feed you?

Most important, don't take what I have said for granted. Go find out for yourself.

RECOMMENDED:

--for a sensational, convincing, down-to-earth, and hard-hitting approach read Adelle Davis' books.

--for any easy introduction, try The Vitamin Hunters, by Albert Von Haller.

--once you have an idea of what nutrition is all about, get ahold of government reports, nutrition books, chemistry and biology texts. Visit health food stores and suppliers, attend lectures, subscribe to various organic farming and health food magazines

--visit your doctor for a check-up.

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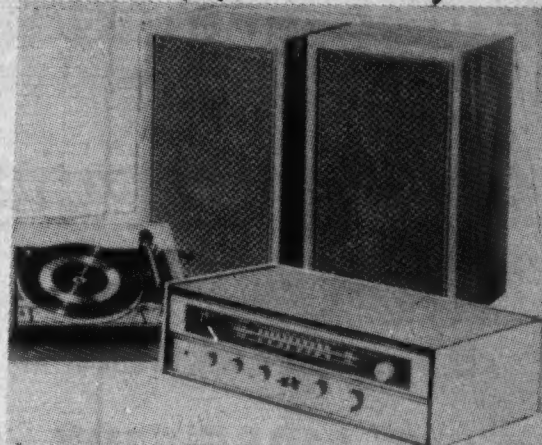


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\$10.98	URIAH HEPP LIVE Uriah Hepp	\$7.58	\$20.98	ANTIGONA Orff	\$14.98
\$6.29	ALADDIN SANE David Bowie	\$3.88	\$6.49	1812 OVERTURE Tchaikovsky	\$4.88
\$5.98	SKYLARK	\$3.78	\$7.49	SYMPHONY NO. 10 Shostakovich	\$5.98
\$6.29	AMERICA	\$3.88	\$14.98	L'ESTRO ARMONICO Antonio Antonio Vivaldi	\$10.98
\$5.98	IN CIRCLE Chief Dan George	\$3.78	\$6.49	OBERON Carl Maria von Weber	\$4.88
\$6.49	RHYMIN SIMON Paul Simon	\$3.98	\$6.49	VIRGIL FOX HEAVY ORGAN	\$4.88
\$5.98	SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII Rick Wakeman	\$3.78	\$6.49	THE WELL-TEMPERED SYNTHESIZER Walter Carlos	\$4.88
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Pretty Bad Show

Summertime is often a dead loss for the avid theatre-goer. The established theatres, professional and amateur, have drawn their shades for the annual aestivation, and their companies for the most part, have disbanded at the first sign of warm weather. With this in mind, we should be grateful for anything which relieves the barrenness of the theatrical landscape at this time of year.

Even with the utmost gratitude in my heart, however, I could not unreservedly enjoy Prestige Productions' latest presentation, which opened June 15th at the Citadel Theatre. *The Boyfriend*, a 1920's musical, takes place in and around a girl's finishing school on the French Riviera.

It is a mild satire on other musicals of the period, but remains well within the grand old tradition of musical theatre—catchy tunes, plenty of big dance numbers and a rather skimpy plot. To succeed, it needs lots of action, colourful sets and costumes and a good deal of 'sell' on the part of the actors. In short, it must go over with a bang or not at all. The performance I saw managed only a fizz.

Perhaps the players were inhibited by the playhouse. There seems to be something in the air of the Citadel Theatre which causes all plays produced there to resemble one another much as if they had all rolled off the same slick, smooth assembly line. Despite the fact that Prestige Productions is in no way related to the regular Citadel management, this show was no exception to the rule.

Most of the play was empty, boring and lifeless. All the actors were in the right place, and doing the right thing at the right time. They were all trying hard, but the only one who managed



to bridge the gap between actors and audience, the only one who managed to penetrate the invisible plate glass window which had somehow been erected in front of the stage, the only one who was exciting and alive was Susan Woywitka. As Madcap Maisie, she was the archetype of the crazy, dizzy flapper. The times when she was centre stage were the most enjoyable ones of the play. And this was because she obviously enjoyed every minute of it.

The rest of the actors didn't manage to communicate this feeling even if they had experienced it. Many of their other faults were due to inexperience and are quite understandable in a group of this kind. But a certain enthusiasm for what they are doing, the 'sell' which I mentioned earlier, is achieved with almost any cast. In this play it was a necessity.

The acting was generally not very good. Pauline LeBel as the heroine, Polly Brown, was rather bland. Her lover Tony (Michael Ross) was sincerely and enthusiastically starstruck. His voice was one of the few which filled the theatre. Polly's father, Percival Brown, was played by John Rivet, who preserved his admirable composure throughout the play. Not once was he funny, moving or even interesting.

Jean McIntyre as the proprietress of the school gave a beautifully finished performance. She was in every respect a refined and cultured lady, but I felt that this approach was out of place in *The Boyfriend*, in which the characters are caricatures rather than studies in naturalism.

Lord Brockhurst (Ron Wigmore), the lecherous peer out for a bit of foreign fun, suddenly came alive halfway through the third act. His song 'It's Never Too Late' was absolutely hilarious, and he remained so until the end of the play.

The rest of the cast improved tremendously in the third act. Their eyes shone, their feet twinkled and their English accents disappeared (thank



God). Their singing was still out of tune, although they were not helped by the orchestra, whose members did not seem to be able to agree on a tempo. Nevertheless it was a vast improvement over the first two acts.

The sets and costumes were good. The direction, by Phillip Silver, was adequate. Although there was a lot of unnecessary standing around, he did have occasional flashes of brilliance and I was pleased to see that he had taken care to get everyone's French pronunciation right.

Orest Semchuk's choreography was superb.

Tickets cost four dollars each (C.) and are available at the Citadel box office. The play runs until June 30.

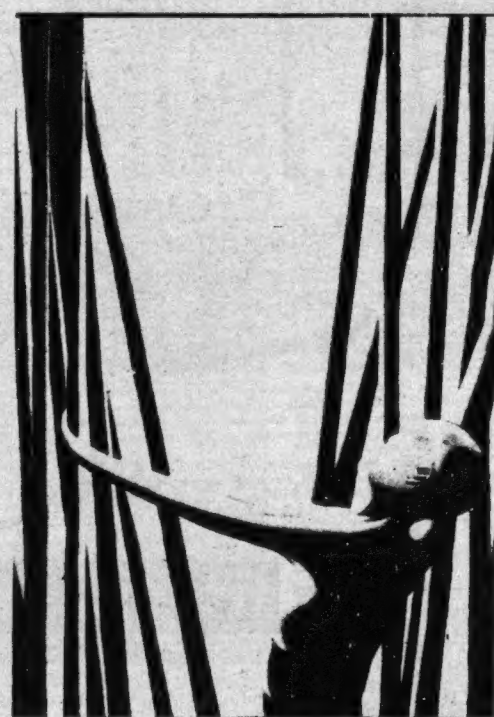
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Expose Yourself !

Art Exists is an Opportunities for Youth Program whose objective is to expose local art through gallery displays and travelling exhibitions throughout the city.

Their main gallery is located in Garneau United Church at 112 St. and 84 Ave. (the old Barricade), and is open to the public from 11am to 7pm during the week and from 11am to 5pm on Saturday throughout the summer. Artists and craftsmen are welcome to exhibit their work by bringing it to the gallery.

The gallery is also collecting works for display at the international Women in Film festival, Edmonton tour, to be held in the downstairs foyer of the

Edmonton Public Library.

Art displays will be held during the summer at the following malls:

Centennial	June 11-15
Capilano	June 18-20
HUB	June 25-30
Londonderry	July 2-7
McCaully Plaza	July 9-14
Edmonton Exhibition	July 16-28
Meadowlark	July 30-August 4
Northgate	August 7-11
Southgate	August 13-18
Westmount	August 20-25

For further information phone 439-0235.

Child Care-Adoption

South Edmonton Regional Office, Dept. of
Health and Social Development
433-4411
West Edmonton Regional Office
484-7742

Community Development

Area 12 Action Group
439-3669 9758-88 Ave.
Area 13 Co-ordinating Council
4661144 6226 Fulton Road
Boyle Street Community Services Co-Op
424-4106 10348-96 St.
Citizenship Development Branch, State Dept.
425-6730 9828-104 Ave.
Edmonton Social Planning Council
424-0331 10006-107 St.
Hardisty Drop-In Centre
469-0425 10535-62 St.
Human Resources Development Authority
429-2602 #206, 10025-108 St.
Indian Affairs Branch (Fed. Govt.)
425-5639 27th Floor, CN Tower
Jasper Place Community Services Centre
4897794 15626-100A Ave.
Metis Association of Alberta
452-9550 #303-10405-100 Ave.
Social Service Dept., City of Edmonton
425-5270 8th Floor, CN Tower
West Ten (West 10?)
4826511 12225-105 Ave.

Counselling

Alcoholics Anonymous
422-2764
Point 3 Project
488-3033 10023-116 St.
Project Recovery
488-1018 10341-121 St.
Alexander Ross Society
434-3802
Debtors Assistance Board
423-7861 102A Ave & 97 St.
(Court House)

Help and stuff

Emergency Clinic
482-1581 220 Le Marchand Mansion
M. O. V. E. (Assistance to Unwed Mothers)
482-4276 9917-116 St.

Day Care

Beverly Day Care Centre
477-1151 223, 116 Ave. -34 St.
Community Day Nursery
424-3730 9641-102A Ave.
Downtown Day Care Centre
424-1793 10031-109 St.
Glengarry Day Care Centre
475-2151 13315-89 St.
Jasper Place Day Care
489-2243 15508-104 Ave.
Primrose Place Day Care
466-3903 85 St. -95 Ave.
Student Union & Community Day Care
432-1245 8917-112 St.
West End Day Care
452-4145 9915-148 St.

Family Planning

Edmonton Birth Control & Abortion Referral
9231-87 St.
Planned Parenthood Association
433-8220 Box 4022
University Health Service
439-4991 (U of A)
Birthright
423-2852 10039-113 St.
M. O. V. E. (Assistance to Unwed Mothers)
482-4276 9917-116 St.
Threshold Group Home for Unwed Mothers
488-9198 9918-112 St.

Hostels

Bissell Men's Centre
424-1728 9560-103A Ave.

Edmonton Central Hostel Organization
(E. C. H. O.)

424-4648 10124-99 St.
Single Men's Hostel
423-3402 10014-109A Avenue
Women's Overnight Shelter
424-5768 10218-108 St.
Y. M. C. A.
424-8047 10030-102A Ave.
Y. W. C. A.
422-8176 10032-103 St.

Housing

Canative Housing
488-6131 10176-117 St.
Edmonton Housing Bureau
423-1549
Handicapped Housing Society
433-4937 10015-82 Ave.
Sturgeon Valley Housing Co-op
484-2883 #505, 10883 Sask. Drive

Legal Services

Alta. Human Rights and Civil Liberties
Association
429-1608 10006-107 St.
Legal Aid Society of Alberta
423-3311 10136-100 St.
Native Counselling Services of Alberta
423-2141 #324, 10010-105 St.
Office of the Ombudsman
423-2251 729 Centennial Building
Student Legal Services
432-4241 Law Centre, U. of A.

Free Food

Bissell Centre
423-2285 9560-103A Ave.
Canadian Native Friendship Centre
488-4991 10176-117 St.

Family Services Dept., Sally Ann
424-6924 #2, 9656 Jasper Ave.
Marian Center
424-3544 10928-98 St.
Operation Friendship
424-4106 10348-96 St.
Women's Overnight Shelter
424-5768 10218-108 St.

Social Action

Action Group of the Disabled
435-1790 10003-107 St.
Alberta Federation of Labour
454-6307
Alta. Human Rights and Civil Liberties
Association
429-1608 10006-107 St.
Edmonton Anti-Pollution Group
423-1163 10006-107 St.
Edmonton Social Planning Council
424-0331 10006-107 St.
Humans on Welfare
424-7924 9676 Jasper Ave.
Pensioners Concerned
Box 5882, Station L Edmonton

Complaints

Better Business Bureau
482-2341 11765 Jasper Ave.
Industrial Claims Consultant
454-5969 12215-135 Ave.
Office of the Ombudsman, Prov. Govt.
423-2251 729 Centennial Building
Landlord & Tenant Advisory Board
424-0521 10237-98 St.

Political Groups

Social Credit League of Alberta
9974 Jasper Ave. 424-0568
New Democratic Party
429-0797 10361-97 St.
Communist Party of Canada
422-4797
Room 1, 9642 Jasper (above Jerry's cafe)
Progressive Conservative Association
422-6636 3rd Floor, 9912-103 St.
Liberal Party
422-1971 2nd Floor, 10026-105 St.
Industrial Workers of the World, P. O.
Box 2827, Station A, 439-5879

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Who Are The Foster Parents?

by Lise Manchester

The family next door is suddenly enlarged by one (a five-year-old?), you see a blue and white poster in a bus, and you are sent an official questionnaire requesting information about one of your friends. What do all of these things have in common? The Foster Parent Program, of course.

The Foster Parent Program, in Edmonton, is an integral part of the Child Welfare Service of the Department of Health and Social Development of the provincial government. The Child Welfare Service has three regional offices, one in each of north, south and west Edmonton, which are administered by a central office in the government administration building. A large part of the work of these offices is in the placement of foster children.

All of these foster children are wards of the Director of Child Welfare. Some are permanent and some temporary wards. Most of the permanent wards were borne by unwed mothers who did not want to keep their children and surrendered them at birth to the Child Welfare Service. Because of the great demand for children (especially babies) to adopt, few of them remain wards for long.

Temporary wards are children who had to be removed from their homes because of some serious family problem. Most of them have been neglected, battered or abandoned. Each of the regional offices operates a Family Service Unit which is open at all hours of the day and night.

When this unit receives a report of a mistreated child, it sends someone out to investigate the case. This report is usually from a friend or neighbor. However, there have been cases of parents who, afraid of a confrontation with the authorities, have gone out leaving the child with a babysitter and then contacted the Family Service Unit themselves.

If, upon investigation, the case is

indeed found to be one of mistreatment, and there are no other available resources (relatives, for example), the child is apprehended by the Child Welfare Service. His case is heard in family court and, if it is decided that he should not return to his family, he is made a temporary ward.

At the earliest opportunity, every child who has been apprehended by the Child Welfare Service is taken to a doctor. If he needs medical or dental care, he is given it. Should a foster home not be immediately available, or if he is not yet ready for one, he is placed in an institution such as the Atonement home, which provides a neutral environment in which the child can work out some of his problems. Occasionally the children of large families, who are reluctant to be separated and for whom it is difficult to find a home, are placed in the Atonement home.

There are also available three receiving homes (private homes), which accept children at any time, and various city-owned children's centers.

Once a child becomes a temporary ward the law allows three years for him to become rehabilitated with his family. His parents are allowed to visit him in his foster home, and the services of psychiatrists, psychologists, special school programs and the like are employed in the effort to get the family back together.

If, at the end of the three years it is impossible for the child to return to his original home, his case is taken to a district court and he is made a permanent ward. At this point he becomes eligible for adoption, although he remains with his foster parents until a permanent home is found for him.

People who wish to become foster parents must go through a very long procedure. The first step is the same as in most government departments -- the filling out of forms, husband and wife together must fill out a green form.

You don't have to be married to be a foster parent - many are divorced persons and widows, but requests from those who are unmarried and single are rare. Requests from those who are unmarried and not single are even more rare.

Applicants must give the names of three people to be used as references, to each of whom is sent a form asking questions about the prospective foster parents. And they must conform to the following regulations:

1. The applicants must have been married for at least a year.
2. One of the applicants must be at least 21 years old.

3. The foster mother must remain at home during the first part of the child's stay (until the child settles in).
4. At the time of application, the Foster mother must not be pregnant.

5. Each foster child must have his own room (this is to ensure that the child has at least one place that he can call his own).

If the forms do not reveal any obvious unsuitability on the part of the applicants, the Child Welfare Service sends out a "homefinder" to do a "home study" of the applicants.

In the course of this home study, the homefinder acquaints himself as well as he can with the family in question. Then he visits each of the three people given as references and attempts to find out from them as much as he can about the applicants' suitability. This is done in as friendly a manner as possible.

The home finder then writes a report on the home study and submits it to the supervisor of his office for approval. It is usually approved. Most rejections are made during the period of the home study. All applicants who are deemed unsuitable are informed of this fact by the homefinder before being notified by letter. And those who are rejected can appeal the decision

and are encouraged to do so.

Once the applicants have been approved as foster parents, the coordinator of the regional office enters their home in his files. There it stays until it is needed.

That may be the very next day. When a social worker needs a home for, say, three children, he has a conference with a homefinder (who knows of one) and the coordinator. Between them, they decide whether or not the home and the children are suited to one another.

Children are never placed with foster parents who have children of the same age. This is to prevent rivalry.

While the child is living in the foster home, his room and board, clothing, drugs, medical and dental expenses and spending money are paid by the province. His family allowance is paid into a trust fund which pays for extras such as birthday presents and brownie uniforms. There is a cultural fund in the central office which provides opportunities for those with special talents.

Occasionally foster parent and child do not get on well with one another. Usually, however, the problem is an opposite one. Foster parents may become too fond of their temporary children, and find it difficult to reconcile themselves with the policy that children are much better off with their natural parents. Children sometimes run away for a similar reason -- they feel guilty about the love they are giving to their foster parents when (they think) they should give it to one except their real parents.

The growth and widespread use of the Foster Parent program has made the orphan asylum a thing of the past.

Cont. on page 15

Where to get POUNDMAKER

University of Alberta

GARNEAU:

Julian Books 11551 87 Ave.
Quarter Theater Corbet Hall, U. of A.

STRATHCONA:

Scona Campus, Grant McEwan Community College 10523 84 Ave
House of Stien 10750 82 Ave.
General Store 10801 82 Ave.
Library 8331 104 St.

NORWOOD:

Norwood Safeway 90 Ave. & 118 St.
Cromdale Campus, Grant McEwan Community College
8020 118 St.
Library 11555 95 St.

CITY CENTER:

Mandala 10114 103 Ave.
Julian Books 10411 Jasper Ave.
Keen Kraft Music 10054 109 St.
Opus 69 10448 Jasper Ave.
Hale Optical 10754 Jasper Ave.
Cartmell Books 10012 101 Ave.
Assumption Campus, Grant McEwan Community College
10765 98 St.
Boyle Street Co-op. 10348 96 St.
Edmonton Art Gallery #2 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Imperial Oil Building 99 St. & Jasper Ave.
Julian Books McCauley Plaza
Y.W.C.A. 10032 103 St.

Opportunities for Youth #1 Thorton Court rm. 346
Edmonton City Market 97 St. & 102 Ave.

BONNIE DOON:

Bonnie Doon Shopping Center (Information Desk)
Library 8310 88 Ave.

OTTEWELL:

Library 98 Ave. & 50 St. (Capilano Mall)

OLIVER:

West 10 12225 105 Ave.

WESTMONT:

Canada Safeway 11815 124 St.

WELLINGTON:

Library 13303 127 St.

BELLEVUE:

Library 6710 118 Ave.

JASPER PARK:

Library 91 Ave. & 156 St.

Centennial Safeway (Centennial Mall)

Meadowlark Shopper's Mall

Library 41 Southgate Shopping Center

PETROLIA:

Canada Safeway 40 Ave. & 114 St.

